

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 239

MONDAY DECEMBER 2, 2013

www.saipantribune.com

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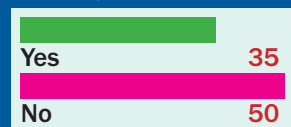
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POLL RESULTS

Will you be having a big Thanksgiving feast this Thursday?



Sunday, December 1, 2013

INSIDE

ADVERTISING FEATURE



It has been sitting at the heart of Ga-rapan for the past 33 years serving the island of Saipan and welcoming thousands of visitors every year.

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LOCAL



Rhea Backe was bestowed the title of "Saipan's Top Chef" with her longtime family "Steak Portobello with Orange Marmalade" original recipe.

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LIFE & STYLE



Paul Walker, the star of the "Fast & Furious" movie series, died Saturday in a car crash.

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'Green Flash' movie films on Saipan. **PAGE 2**

Ex-CUC board chair's motion to suspend imposition of 6-year jail term denied. **PAGE 3**

INOS TO SENATE, HOUSE:

'Get electronic gaming bill moving'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

If Gov. Eloy S. Inos could have his way, he said he would like the Senate and House to reconcile remaining differences on a stalled electronic gaming bill that the governor sees as a potential major source of new revenues that the CNMI needs to meet its obligations.

This comes days after the Senate filed on Wednesday a House bill legalizing casinos on Saipan, essentially killing the controversial revenue-generating measure once again. Moreover, a video lottery operations request for proposals has yet to be released, months after video lottery became legal to also help generate new sources of income for the government.

"I recommend they all get together, reconcile (their differences) on the issue and see if we can get the bill moving," Inos said in an interview at the Christmas tree lighting on Friday night to kick off the holiday season.

The governor said he looks forward to the Senate and House's decision to "resolve"

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Sole-source, long-term Marpi landfill contract eyed after OPA modifies order

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan said the Office of the Public Auditor's "modified" recommendation—albeit upholding a procurement appeal decision—could pave the way for a sole-source, long-term Marpi landfill operations contract using

an "emergency" justification such as endangerment of Saipan residents' health and safety.

"DPW is now in a position to decide which action to take to get this long-delayed project moving, in consultation with the Procurement and Supply Division. We're looking at a sole-source, emergency contract with a qualified

See MARPI on Page 4

'Tree of peace, hope' lighting kicks off Christmas season

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

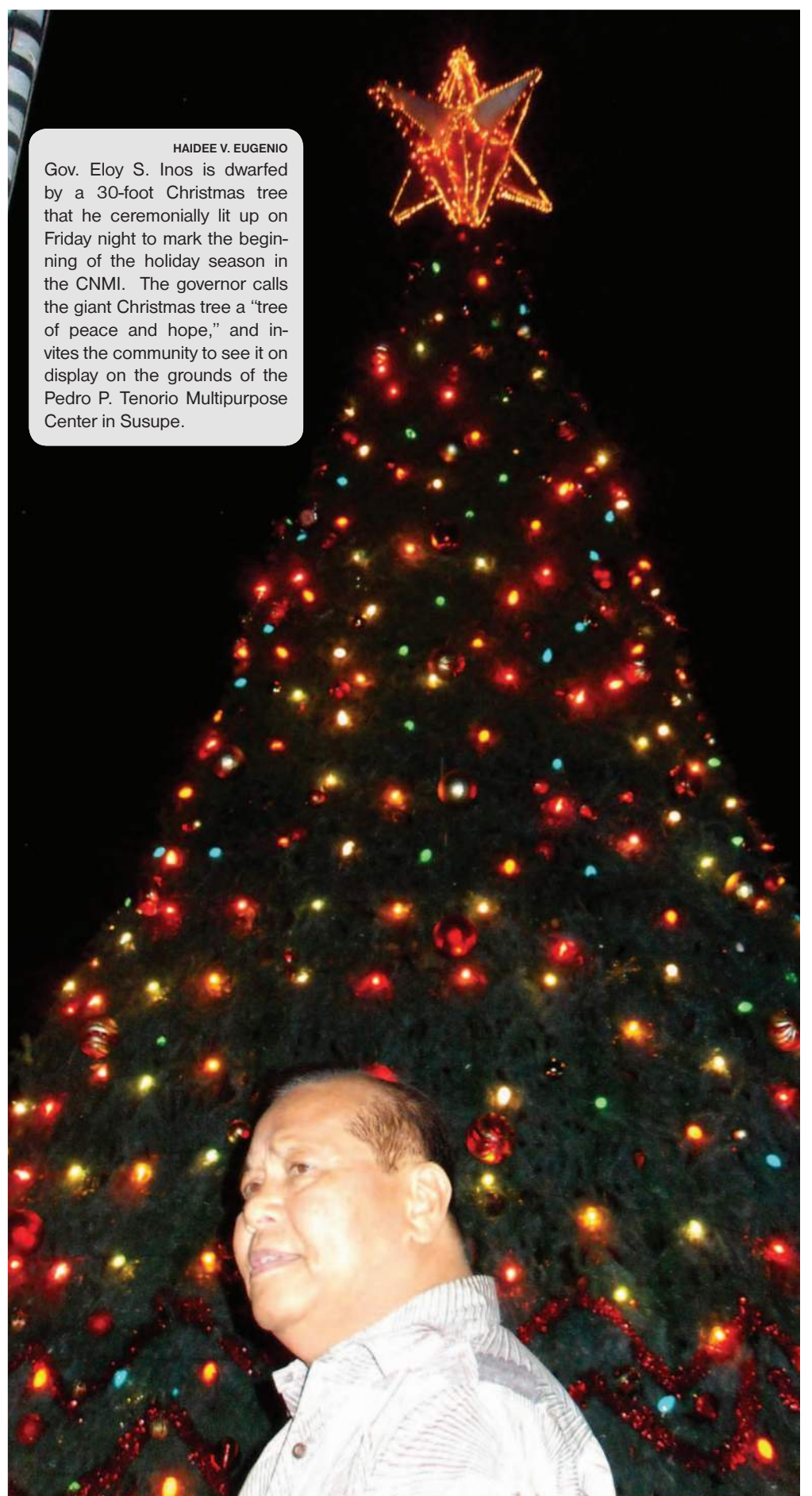
As daytime gave way to night, Christmas carols filled the air followed by Gov. Eloy S. Inos' flicking of a switch on Friday night to beautifully light up a giant Christmas tree he calls a "tree of peace and hope." The 6:29pm switch-on kicked off the holiday celebrations in the CNMI.

At 30 feet tall, the Christmas

tree hovers over everyone and everything in the parking lot of the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center in Susupe for the tree-lighting ceremony.

The governor said the tree symbolizes the CNMI's gratefulness to the Lord for all the blessings the islands have received, but at the same time, he called on the community to not forget about families affected by

See TREE on Page 4



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Gov. Eloy S. Inos is dwarfed by a 30-foot Christmas tree that he ceremonially lit up on Friday night to mark the beginning of the holiday season in the CNMI. The governor calls the giant Christmas tree a "tree of peace and hope," and invites the community to see it on display on the grounds of the Pedro P. Tenorio Multipurpose Center in Susupe.

'Green Flash' movie films on Saipan

The Japanese movie "Green Flash" filmed on Saipan last Nov. 22-23. The movie, set to premiere in April 2014, is about three university students working at Karaoke Box in Tokyo who travel to the Pacific in search of happiness and the "green flash" natural phenomenon.

Actor Yuya Miyagaki and

actress Yui Ishikawa were on Saipan for the shoot. The movie is sponsored by the largest karaoke franchise in Japan, Dai-ichi Koshu Co., Ltd., and supported by convenience store fran-

chisor Lawson Inc.

The Marianas Visitors Authority assisted the production shoot with film permitting and ground transportation. The Northern Mariana Islands are expected to receive over \$50,000 in ad exposure through the movie trailer, Lawson e-mail news and free magazine, the movie premiere,

and other publicity.

"We're happy to see a renewed interest in the Northern Mariana Islands as a film location for Japanese companies with this month's visit of 'Green Flash,'" said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman. "With our beautiful natural scenery and year-round tropical weather, we are a convenient locale for film companies throughout Asia, and we hope to see more companies avail of what we

have to offer."

While on Saipan the crew filmed at the Japanese-era light-house on Navy Hill, Jonny's Bar & Grill, Paseo de Marianas pe-

destrian mall, Saipan Beach Pathway, and Wing Beach. The crew lodged at Hyatt Regency Saipan and Hafadai Beach Hotel during the production shoot. (MVA)

Japanese sports publications visit NMI

Two Japanese sports publications have had editorial teams in the Northern Mariana Islands last week to highlight the outdoors activities and other visitor attractions offered.

Tokyo Chunichi Sports is a daily sports newspaper sold to both subscribers and at newsstands, with a total circulation of 1.5-million. Its 2/3 page feature will run at the end of the December 2013 and will also be carried in *Chunichi Sports* in Nagoya, *Nishinichi Sports* in Kyushu, and *Daily Sports* in Osaka, bringing over \$420,000 in ad exposure value to the NMI.

Celebrity TV reporter and diver Hitomi Fukui is on Saipan as a model for *Monthly Diver magazine*, which circulates to 120,000 readers. The magazine will feature six full-color pages in February 2014, bringing an estimated \$3,600 in ad exposure value just before the biggest

dive expo show in Japan held in March each year.

"The Marianas Visitors Authority continues to market the Northern Mariana Islands as an ideal sports destination, and these media visits are right on track with the objective," said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman.

Monthly Diver will shoot four to five dives a day and will also feature scenic and historic sites in Marpi, downtown Garapan, and the Joyful Dinner Show.

Tokyo Chunichi Sports will also feature Managaha and Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort. Last Nov. 28, the editorial team traveled to Tinian and held photo shoots at Taga Beach, Tachonga Beach, Kammer Beach, Taga House, Chulu Beach, the Tinian Blow-hole, and historic North Field.

The media groups have lodged at Fiesta Resort & Spa and Chalan Kanoa Beach Club. (MVA)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

On the set of the movie "Green Flash" on Saipan, director Kiyohide Matsumura, center, speaks with actress Yui Ishikawa, right, and actor Yuya Miyagaki, left. The film will premiere in Japan in 2014.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Japanese movie "Green Flash" filmed at the Japanese-era light-house and other locations on Saipan on Nov. 22-24, 2013.

Devastated hospitals receive donated medicine

Ormoc District Hospital and Divine Word Hospital in Tacloban each received 940 lbs of medicines and medical supplies from an IEHK (Interagency Emergency Health Kit) purchased from MAP International (www.map.org) out of Brunswick, Georgia USA.

The Ayuda Foundation, in consultation with the Guam Telephone Authority, used GTA's \$10,000 donation to purchase the IEHK from MAP, which provides enough medicine for 30,000 people for 30 days.

MAP is a non-profit organization that responds to struggling hospitals all over the world and not just in times of disaster. This is the second time MAP has worked

with the Ayuda network in a response to a Philippine disaster.

MAP receives donations of medicines and medical supplies from pharmaceuticals and manufacturers enabling them to offer huge amounts of medicines for drastically reduced prices.

In consultation with the Filipino Community of Guam it was decided to split the IEHK between two hospitals. The logistics on the IEHK (from the moment it arrived in Cebu on Nov. 23 from MAP's operation in the Netherlands) was handled in the Philippines by Natural Logistics and Smart Communications, Inc., partners with Ayuda in every disaster response it made to the Philippines.

In addition to the purchased IEHK, MAP donated 50 travel packs of medicine that combined can treat 17,500 people. The travel packs will be divided among three hospitals. The travel packs will arrive on Nov. 30 and will be distributed as follows.

■ Easter Visayas Regional Medical Center – 30 packs

■ Tacloban City Medical Center – 10 packs

■ Tacloban Doctors Medical Center – 10 packs

MAP also donated another IEHK that can treat 30,000 people for 30 days and it will go to the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center. The second, donated IEHK will arrive on Dec 6. (PR)

USS Freedom visits Guam while transiting Pacific

SANTA RITA, Guam—The littoral combat ship, *USS Freedom* (LCS 1), arrived in Guam, the furthest western U.S. territory, as part of her return transit across the Pacific Ocean, Nov. 29.

While the crew will have time to rest, relax and reset, *Freedom* will receive fuel and supplies for the next underway period as the ship wraps up a maiden overseas deployment to Southeast Asia that began last March.

Over the past several months, *Freedom* has worked with many regional navies that operate comparable-sized ships during a series of port visits, exercises, and exchange-

es. These engagements directly support the Asia-Pacific rebalance and further reinforced cooperation and interoperability among the Navy's partners and allies throughout Southeast Asia.

Prior to arriving in Guam, *Freedom* conducted a passing exercise (PASSEX) with the Bangladesh navy ship *BNS Somudro Joy* (F 28), supported humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HA/DR) efforts in the Philippines, as part of Operation Damayan, and conducted a port call in Muara, Brunei.

USS Freedom's first rotational deployment to Southeast Asia began March 1, when the

ship departed San Diego and commenced a Pacific Ocean transit that included port visits in Hawaii, Guam and Manila.

Freedom used Singapore as a logistics and maintenance hub between April 18 and Nov. 16, during which she participated in the International Maritime Defence Exhibition (IMDEX), three phases of the bilateral naval exercise Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) with Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei, and the multinational exercise Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training (SEACAT). During port visits, *Freedom* hosted thousands visitors from throughout Southeast Asia. (PR)



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

**7th Annual Hell of the Marianas
Century Cycle
Ready, Set, Bike!**

**The 7th Annual Hell of the Marianas
Century Cycle** will be held by the

Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) and Northern Mariana Islands Cycling Federation this Saturday (December 7).

As Saipan welcomes all competitors for this prestigious event, island residents are reminded to drive with caution on along the race course on Saturday morning. Dog owners are also reminded to ensure their pets are leashed.

This year's Hell of the Marianas is redesigned and refined. The course starts in the foothills of the island amongst historical sites at the **Mariana Resort & Spa**, where racers will catch a quick



glimpse of WWII memorial sites before looping around the perimeter of the island. The final 25km canvasses **Suicide Cliff, Bird Island and Banzai Cliff** prior to attacking the fast flat from **Last Command Post** to the Mariana Resort & Spa.

For more information, visit www.hell-of-the-marianas.com or the MVA Calendar of Events at www.mymarianas.com.



Local

Ex-CUC board chair's motion to suspend imposition of six-year jail term denied

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has denied former Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board chair Francisco Q. Guerrero's motion to suspend the execution of the court's sentencing order that slapped him with a six-year prison term for 11 charges related to allegations of sexual abuse of a minor girl.

In denying Guerrero's motion for a stay of the execution issued on Friday, Wiseman determined that the defendant failed to raise any substantial questions as to law or fact likely to result in reversal of his conviction or the

ordering of a new trial.

The judge pointed out that he explicitly found that he based his finding of defendant's guilty on the credibility of the victim's testimony.

"Although arguably the expert testimony regarding coping mechanisms could have shed light on any possible inconsistencies of a victim's testimony, the court never found the victim's testimony to lack any credibility," Wiseman said.

Therefore, Wiseman continued, even if the admissibility of the expert testimony were erroneous, which defendant has failed to establish, it is not more probable than not that any

potential error in its admission materially affected the verdict.

Guerrero, 33, was ordered to start serving his sentence yesterday, Dec. 1, 2013, at the Department of Corrections. He is expected to be released on Nov. 30, 2019.

Last July, a jury acquitted Guerrero of two counts of a sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, but Wiseman found him guilty of 11 charges: three counts of assault and battery, five counts of disturbing the peace, two counts of indecent exposure in the second degree, and sexual abuse of a minor in the fourth degree.

See EX-CUC on Next Page



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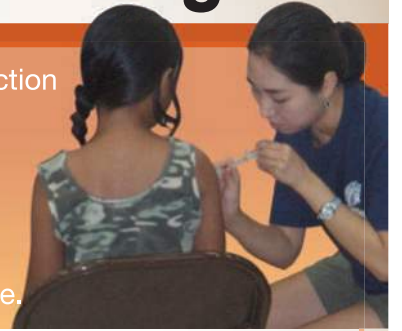
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- Chronic liver disease is marked by the gradual destruction of liver tissue over time.



The CNMI Division of Public Health and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation, in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization, are conducting a

Hepatitis B Serosurvey

among first grade children to see if they are protected against hepatitis B.



The survey will be performed on school campuses and will consist of a **FINGER PRICK** similar to that of a blood sugar test. This small sample will be taken and tested for Hepatitis B. All test results will be kept strictly confidential and this survey will greatly benefit the CNMI by providing important information on how common hepatitis B infection is for our children.



So please have your first grade child participate in this survey to know if your child is **PROTECTED** against Hepatitis B Virus infection.

For more information please contact Public Health Immunization Program at 236 8745.



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM



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Ask if your baby passed the test.

If you have concerns or your baby needs follow up call 236-8709.



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Printing is funded by the Cooperative Agreement for the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Tracking, Surveillance and Integration.



IN COPPER WIRE THEFT CASE

Babauta guilty, Anastacio cleared of charges

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

A Superior Court jury on Friday rendered a guilty verdict against Sonny Babauta, a 21-year-old man accused of conspiring with others in burglarizing and stealing copper wires and other items from a warehouse in Afetnas.

Before the jurors deliberated that day, associate judge Joseph N. Camacho granted attorney William Fitzgerald's motion for judgment of acquittal to Babauta's co-defendant, Petrus Anastacio, as to the remaining charge of accessory after the fact to burglary.

When the prosecutors rested their case on Wednesday, Camacho granted Fitzgerald's motion for judgment of acquittal as to the charges of theft and conspiracy to commit theft filed against Anastacio.

After deliberating for less than an hour Friday night, the six jurors reached a unanimous verdict, finding Babauta guilty of all charges—two counts of burglary, two counts of conspiracy to commit burglary, two counts of theft, and two counts of conspiracy to commit theft.

Camacho set the sentencing for Jan. 8, 2014 at 9am.

Babauta was allowed to remain on temporary release on the same pre-trial bail conditions until the sentencing date.

Saying the case is straightforward, the judge denied defense



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Sonny Babauta talks with family members and a staff of Torres Brothers law firm outside the courtroom after a jury reached a guilty verdict Friday night. Babauta was found guilty of all charges in connection with the conspiracy to burglarize and steal copper wires and other items from Han Nam warehouse in Afetnas last year.

counsel Joaquin Torres' request for the Office of the Adult Probation to prepare a pre-sentence investigation report.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* after the hearing, Torres said he respects the jury in many ways and that this is one of the few cases in which he has seen with many discrepancies in the witnesses' testimonies.

"So I am still puzzled with the verdict," Torres said.

Asked if he will be filing post-

trial motions, Torres said he has not spoken with the defendant about that issue.

Assistant attorney general Chemere McField said the government is pleased with the outcome in this case.

McField said prior to the trial, the three co-conspirators pleaded guilty to burglary and that two of them were sentenced each to the maximum of 10 years in prison.

"We are pleased that Mr. Ba-

bauta was held accountable for his involvement in that," McField said.

Babauta is facing the maximum sentence of 27 years in jail.

On Anastacio's acquittal, McField said they believe in the justice system and in the jury.

"So we are pleased either way. Justice is served whenever a verdict is reached. So we do feel that justice was served today," she said.

Assistant attorney general Margo Brown, who assisted McField in the trial, thanked Department of Public Safety personnel for their help in this case.

In the government's closing arguments, McField said they called in a total of six witnesses, including the three conspirators who provided firsthand knowledge and participated in burglarizing and stealing copper wires, power tools, and cases of soda at Han Nam warehouse, formerly known as Uno Moda Factory between Dec. 18 and 19, 2012.

In his closing arguments, Torres asked the jurors to render a not guilty verdict to Babauta because the government didn't do their job.

Torres said he admits that the prosecution's witnesses were all consistent that Babauta was at the scene, but that none of them, however, were consistent on what Babauta was doing.

Torres said the government relied on the inconsistent state-

without the president's vote.

The same committee report recommends that businesses engaged in electronic gaming are not eligible for a qualifying certificate, a tax break program. It also only allows electronic gaming operations at hotels or resorts with at least 100 rooms or those attached to a golf course if they have less than 100 rooms. These are only allowed on Saipan.

ments of convicted felons—Fiden Hamo, Jeffrey Lizama, and Matthias Salisban.

Torres said Hamo, Lizama, and Salisban testified because they needed to help the government to prosecute Babauta as part of their plea agreement.

Lizama, Salisban, and Hamo all signed a plea agreement with the government and pleaded guilty.

Camacho already sentenced Lizama and Salisban to the full maximum jail term of 10 years in prison. Hamo will be sen-

tenced after the trial.

According to the prosecution, on Dec. 18 and 19, 2012, Hamo twice entered the Han Nam warehouse, formerly known as the Onu Moda Factory, with co-defendants Babauta, Lizama, and Salisban.

Upon entering the warehouse, Hamo along with co-defendants, allegedly stole copper wires, power tools, and other items. The group, along with Anastacio, allegedly transported, altered, and stored the copper wires for resale.

TREE

From Page 1

disasters such as typhoons.

"Let's also think about the men and women in harm's way. Let's continue to pray for their safe return," the governor said, referring to military personnel from the CNMI currently stationed in conflict areas and other parts of the world.

Jazmin Jack, 12, said she was happy to be part of the group of Department of Public Safety personnel and family members, along with the San Jose Parish choir members that sang Christmas carols in the lead-up to the switch-on.

"I like all the songs we sang, like Holy Night. And this Christmas tree is the biggest and tallest I've seen so far. It's really beautiful," Jack told *Saipan Tribune*. She's a daughter of a DPS investigator.

The public is invited to visit the giant Christmas tree, which will be lit up on night time until around Jan. 6.

Joining hands to build and decorate the Christmas tree were personnel from the Office of the Governor, Department of Public Works, Department of Public Safety, Department of Corrections, and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

CW extension

In an interview with report-

ers after the tree-lighting, the governor said he's hoping that the U.S. Department of Labor would soon announce granting the CNMI's request for an extension of the transitional CW program beyond Dec. 31, 2014.

Inos said extending the CW program could be one of the greatest Christmas gifts from the federal government this holiday season.

Without such extension, the CNMI could lose immediate access to some 12,000 skilled and professional foreign workers that the tourism-based economy has relied upon for years and decades.

Inos said such a grant of extension will ease uncertainty on the availability of enough number of workers, at a time when the economy is picking up. The governor said the government, the business community, and the employees themselves would want the uncertainty addressed, hopefully before the year ends.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) had said U.S. Labor assured him that an announcement of a decision will be made before the end of 2013, but there's no telling whether such would be a grant of extension or not.

Inos said he plans to write a joint follow-up letter with Sablan, addressed to U.S. Labor, on the requested CW extension.

INOS

From Page 1

outstanding issues.

"They need to hash it out, their differences," he added.

A few days before the Senate session on Rota last week, Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) removed from the session calendar the electronic gaming bill over his concerns

with a conference committee report and recommendation of a \$2,500 license fee per electronic gaming machine.

Torres said he is humbly asking for reconsideration of the fee which he described as "too low," considering that the government imposes a \$12,500 in license fee for each poker machine on Saipan. He is proposing a \$5,000 license fee per electronic gaming ma-

chine, which he said is a compromise, considering that the original proposal was \$10,000.

There is no telling whether the president will be able to convince the joint Senate-House committee to reconsider their report and recommendation.

But just the same, the nine-member Senate has enough votes to pass the conference committee report on the electronic gaming bill, with or

MARPI

From Page 1

company," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* last week.

For some 15 months now, DPW has only been "renting" equipment from vendors for the compacting of waste at the federal-funded Marpi landfill instead of entering into a long-term contract for its operation and maintenance.

This is partly because of procurement protest and appeal related to DPW's request for proposals on the operation of the Marpi solid waste facility.

OPA reaffirmed its findings that DPW's RFP on the Marpi landfill operations was "flawed" because price or cost to the government was not included in the RFP listing of evaluation factors.

Back in July, OPA granted SARS or Success International

Corp's procurement appeal and directed DPW to cancel the "flawed" RFP.

However, OPA modified its prior order on Oct. 25.

OPA said it "will not direct the method DPW must use pursuant to the CNMI Procurement Regulations to procure the services at issue."

"OPA recognizes that the agency has important factors to consider, including the 'health and safety of Saipan's residents,' which places the CNMI in a 'dangerous position' with regulatory agencies," said OPA legal counsel Deborah E. Fisher in an Oct. 25 decision concurred by Public Auditor Michael Pai.

The OPA decision, a copy of which was obtained last week, says DPW "is in the best position to consider what type of procurement process is most lawfully under the CNMI Procurement Regulations, in conjunction with P&S, to engage

a contractor for Marpi landfill operations."

After issuing an RFP and evaluating the proposals received, DPW had proposed to award the contract to Tangs Corp.

But SARS/Success International protested this with Procurement and Supply.

Later on, SARS/Success International appealed to OPA on Procurement and Supply's decision.

Procurement, in rejecting SARS' earlier protest, said that Tangs Corp.'s certain personnel have been involved in the construction and operation of the Marpi landfill since its inception in 2002, whereas SARS "had no experience in operating a landfill until it obtained the contract for the temporary equipment rental."

In its modified order on the issue in October, OPA also cited DPW's April 26 memo to Procurement and Supply when the former requested that an award

be made to Tangs Corp.

At the time, SARS had a short-term equipment rental service agreement with DPW because the latter had yet to award a long-term Marpi landfill operations contract as a result of a pending procurement protest/appeal.

DPW's Sablan said the department's evaluation of SARS' waste placement and compaction activities indicates that "improper compaction is being obtained and that application of significantly more soil than required for daily cover is substantially impacting air space availability negatively."

Sablan said these actions have created "damaging conditions that will impact both the health and safety of Saipan's residents and place the CNMI in a dangerous position with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Division of Environmental Quality."

EX-CUC

From Page 3

Last Nov. 19, Wiseman sentenced the former CUC board chair with a six-year jail term that he will serve without the possibility of parole.

Guerrero, through counsel Brien Sers Nicholas, appealed and filed the motion for a stay of execution of his sentence.

Nicholas asserted that a stay is warranted because the defendant is neither a flight risk or a danger to the community, he is not appealing the case for the purpose of delay, and the government's alleged withholding of Brady material and the expert testimony by Julian Camacho raise substantial questions of law or fact likely to result in a reversal of his conviction or an order for a new trial.

Brady material refers to a piece of evidence known to the prosecution that is important for establishing the innocence or

reducing the punishment of a defendant.

Assistant attorney general Margo Brown, counsel for the government, opposed the motion.

In denying the motion, Wiseman said Guerrero has not only failed to establish that the materials requested were Brady materials but has also failed to show that even if they were Brady materials, that any alleged suppression constituted a violation.

On Camacho's testimony, Wiseman said the Division of Youth Services staff's testimony was admitted for the purposes of addressing the issues of delayed reporting and coping mechanisms of victims.

The judge said Camacho never testified as to the credibility of the victim.

According to the court's commitment order, Guerrero began sexually molesting the now 17-year-old girl in 2010 when she was in the 9th grade and continued doing so up to May 2012 in five different occasions.

Accurate MOE calculation pending between NMI, USDOE

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The issue over the accurate formula for maintenance of effort requirement remains unresolved between the CNMI and the U.S. Department of Education, almost a year after the Commonwealth was required to submit a new waiver application to the federal agency.

It was early 2012 when the CNMI government filed a waiver application for MOE. Its early submission was found lacking sufficiency and was inconsistent with the federal standards. USDOE then requested more data from the CNMI.

Press secretary Angel A. Demapan confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* the status of the MOE issue with the federal agency.

"The administration has not received a decision from USDOE at this time," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Without a clear decision from the USDOE, Education

Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan said that the central government is still obligated to pay PSS \$7 million—representing unremitted maintenance of effort for fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

It was in 2009 when USDOE awarded the CNMI \$44 million under the state fiscal stabilization fund. Of this amount, the bulk of \$32.4 million was given to PSS. Under this federal award, there is a condition set that education system must receive a specific amount of the overall budget of the CNMI government, which was then equivalent to 40 cents to \$1 dollar. This calculation was later changed by USDOE and used instead the percentage point, which is 25 percent of the overall government budget.

"We haven't heard back from the government (on the MOE issue). I know that they're working on it and we hope to hear something definitive ... but as of today, we haven't

been provided any update," the commissioner admitted to *Saipan Tribune*, adding that she's confident that PSS will immediately be notified by the administration when decision is made by the USDOE.

When asked what this means to PSS, Sablan said that the administration (based on PSS' books) still owe the school system the \$7 million it failed to remit for FYs 2010 and 2011. This figure may change, depending on the determination of USDOE.

The original amount was \$11 million but in the later part of school year 2010-2011, the central government had remitted some \$2.6 million to pay for the personnel salary in 3 ½ pay periods. It was earlier disclosed that the CNMI, due to non-ad-

herence to MOE, is faced with serious trouble if USDOE made its final decision on MOE issue. *Saipan Tribune* learned that

the CNMI government, pursuant to the USDOE request, made two submissions to the federal agency: 1.) the govern-

ment calculation of MOE using the old formula; 2.) calculation of MOE using the new methodology used by the CNMI.

DEQ Cleanup Brigade to target COP Beach Dec. 7

The Division of Environmental Quality Cleanup Brigade will be at it again picking up trash at Coral Ocean Point Beach this Saturday, Dec. 7, starting 8 am.

If you would like to volunteer your time to clean and beautify our island, please meet the DEQ representatives on Saturday at the Coral Ocean Point Beach parking lot at 8am. Volunteers will split into groups and clean until 10am and break for drinks and then continue, if needed.

This month, outstanding brigade volunteers who participated in at least 10 monthly cleanups will receive a brigade cap and those who participated in at least three cleanups will receive

a brigade T-shirt.

Last month's Tank Beach Cleanup was successful with 38 volunteers participating. Thanks to students from Saipan Southern High School, staff from Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Coastal Resource Management, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and other volunteers about 280 lbs of trash was removed from the beach and properly disposed of.

The DEQ is looking forward to a repeat success this Saturday, so join DEQ's monthly cleanup brigade.

For more information about volunteering effort, contact the DEQ office at 664-8500/1. (DEQ)

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Poker player's car stolen, vehicle later found at cemetery

An unidentified person stole a car while its owner was then playing poker at an establishment in Chalan Kanoa on Saturday afternoon. The vehicle was later recovered at the cemetery, police said.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Travis Hurst said yesterday that on Saturday at 3:21pm, police received a call about a stolen vehicle in Chalan Kanoa.

Hurst said Police Officer

Maverick Saures responded to the poker establishment and met with the victim, who claimed that he had placed his keys and other personal belongings next to the poker machine he was playing on.

When the victim went to another machine, he forgot to take his keys with him. When he returned to get his keys from where he placed them, they were no longer there.

The victim went outside

and observed his vehicle was also gone.

At 5:52pm that same day, Officers Saures and Buddy Igitol, along with the victim, recovered the vehicle in the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery

located south of the Mount Carmel Cathedral.

Hurst said members of the DPS crime scene unit

processed the vehicle for fingerprints and other latent evidence.

Once the processing was completed, the vehicle was turned back to the owner.

Hurst said DPS is currently investigating this incident and is following up on all leads.

"Anyone with information about this case is asked to call DPS at 664-9001," Hurst said. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



Hurst

Water outage to affect five villages on Saipan

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the residents of Fina Sisu, Chalan Laulau, Kannat Tabla and parts of Dandan and San Jose that a 12-hour water outage is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 3 from 8am to 8pm.

The purpose of this water outage is to allow CUC's contractor, ASC Construction, to

excavate and reinforce an existing 14-inch waterline with concrete encasement and install a new 8-inch sewer main along Chalan Monsignor Guerrero. This project is part of the Installation of Sewer Service Lines funded by the USA-EPA. CUC Water Operations will also be replacing Pressure Reducing Valves

in Kannat Tabla during this time.

The water outage will affect residents living in Fina Sisu Area, Airport Road, As Terlaje Hill, Parts of As Lito Road, Parts of San Jose (along Chalan Monsignor Guerrero Road), Kannat Tabla area, El Toro Area, Chalan Pale Arnold Road (from Chalan

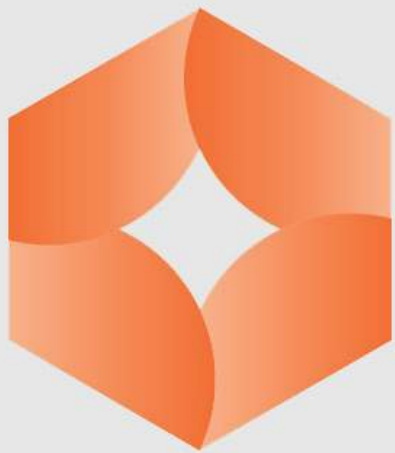
Monsignor Guerrero intersection to Japon Drive), Beach Road (from Chalan Monsignor Guerrero intersection to Gualo Rai Rd.), and Quarter Master Road.

CUC's operations team and ASC Construction will be working hard to return service to our customers in these affected areas as soon as

possible. Because of the scale of the work to be performed, CUC recommends that motorists take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the construction sites.

CUC apologizes in advance for any inconvenience resulting from this project and the water service interruption. Please direct inquiries to Birhen Martinez, project manager, at 235-7025-30 ext. 327. *(CUC)*

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SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR SAYS:**2-year NMC requirement lifted for off-island freshman, sophomore scholars**

Local students pursuing their college outside the Commonwealth are reminded by the CNMI Scholarship Office about their eligibility to apply for financial assistance for the upcoming Spring 2014 semester.

Scholarship administrator Rose Pangelinan said this was a result of the enactment of Public Law 18-6, which repealed Section 5, Requirement of Attendance at Northern Marianas College, of the CNMI Scholarship Regulations, so that students pursuing college need not be enrolled at NMC to become eligible for the Educational Assistance Program.

"I'd like to remind off-island student in their freshmen and/or sophomore year who were affected by the two-year NMC requirement that Public Law 18-6 lifted the two-year NMC requirement allowing all off-island freshmen and sophomore applicants to ap-

ply," she told *Saipan Tribune*. She encouraged them to drop off their applications at the Scholarship Office or mail or email them no later than the deadline.

According to Pangelinan, application deadline for new and returning applicants for Spring 2014 is Dec. 15. Ongoing recipients from Fall 2013, she said, do not need to submit another application for Spring 2014.

Meantime, all supporting documents are due on Feb. 28, 2014 for Winter quarter students; and April 1, 2014 is the deadline for supporting documents for Spring quarter students. If the Scholarship Office's annual deadlines fall on the weekend, applicants may submit it no later than the first business day after.

It was early this year when then acting governor Jude U. Hofschneider signed into law a Senate bill amending the scholarship

regulations which received some oppositions from the scholarship board and the NMC. Supporters of the bill, however, said that by repealing this section, it will make available scholarships for new applicants, whether they are enrolled at NMC or any other accredited institution.

Section 5 of the CNMI Scholarship Regulations require that a new applicant beginning in the fall of 2012 will only receive financial assistance if the applicant is either enrolled at Northern Marianas College or at another accredited institution, and such applicant has already obtained an associate degree.

The Scholarship Office has two program offerings: the Educational Assistance Program and Honors Scholarship Program. However, the

Honors scholarship program had stopped receiving new ap-

plicants beginning Fall 2013 semester as a result of the expiration of the sunset provision that created the program. What the scholarship is providing to its scholars, are the assistance to complete the remaining years of their degrees. The law needs to be amended for the Honors scholarship to continue beyond 2013.

Also effective this Fall 2013 se-

mester, EAP scholars have been cut of their financial awards due to budget constraints.

Under the EAP program, eligible applicants receive \$1,050 financial assistance per semester if they are pursuing education outside the Commonwealth. For those EAP recipients enrolled at NMC, the financial assistance amounts to \$908 per school year while \$700 for quarter scholars.

Pangelinan disclosed that new EAP awards are \$850 for per semester scholar, while \$550

for quarter term scholars. This reflects a 19-percent cut for per semester recipients and a 21-percent cut for quarter term scholars.

The reduction in awards, *Saipan Tribune* learned, was based on the budget approved for the program in FY 2014 which is \$1.2 million.

To avail of the EAP award, it requires meeting a 2.25 cumulative GPA and the scholar must be enrolled in 12 units or more for the semester. **(Moneth G. Deposa)**

FOA to present 'All I Want for Christmas' on Dec. 6, 7

The Friends of the Arts will be presenting "All I Want for Christmas" on Dec. 6 and 7 at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

"All I Want for Christmas" is a musical variety show with vocals, instrumentals, and heartwarming performances. The program will include violin performances by the Do Re Mi School of Music.

Both shows will start at 7pm and admission is \$12 for FOA members and guests, \$15 for adults, \$8 for students (to include Northern Marianas College), and \$5 for thespians. Children age 4 and under are not charged.

Season ticket-holders and advertisers are pre-paid. There is no need to bring the ticket.

All funds collected for admission will be donated to the su-

pertyphoon Haiyan (Yolanda) relief effort.

Cash and canned food donations will also be accepted at each show for the CNMI Chapter of the Salvation Army. FOA will match the amount of cash donations.

Additionally, refreshments will be sold at intermission to support the mission of the Salvation Army. **(PR)**



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Trial of ex-Tinian cop facing charges of sexual abuse of minor starts today



Camacho

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A jury trial will commence today in the case against Melvin Ilo Monkeya, a former Tinian police officer who is facing charges of sexually abusing a then 14-year-old girl in 2008 inside the Tinian police station.

The trial of 42-year-old Monkeya will be conducted at the Superior Court Tinian. Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho will preside over the trial.

Assistant attorney general Chemere McField is prosecuting the case. Attorney Jennifer Dockter is court-appointed counsel for Monkeya.

On Friday, Camacho issued an order, finding that the Office of the Attorney General did not commit discovery violations concerning the government's notice of intent to introduce evidence of defendant's other sexual acts and other bad acts.

Camacho, however, is withholding ruling on the admissibility of other acts evidence until trial, so that the court can assess the need for such evidence beyond the testimony and evidence already offered.

In a separate order issued on Friday, Camacho denied the defendant's motion to dismiss the charges based on the government's failure to promptly turn over discovery materials.

The judge found that the government complied with all obligations concerning notice of intent to introduce evidence of other acts of defendant and related discovery.

Monkeya is charged with one count of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree.

According to the prosecution, Monkeya admittedly engaged in non-consensual sexual penetration of the minor girl at the Tinian police station in November 2008. The defendant is also accused of soliciting and attempting to coerce the victim into another similar assault in 2011.

In 2013, Monkeya allegedly confessed to several family members and boasted his ability to avoid criminal liability due to his employment as a police officer.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

December 2, 2005

'NMI remains bird-flu free'

The Department of Public Health said there has been no suspected case of bird flu in the CNMI, as the World Health Organization reported the number of human deaths related to the influenza virus at 68. Public Health medical director Richard Brostrom said his office has been coordinating with the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, which reportedly declared no avian influenza cases on the CNMI poultry flocks. Brostrom also said there is still no finding that the dreaded flu virus, which has killed millions of bird populations and made many people ill, has mutated into another form that could result into human-to-human transmission.

DPH denies suspension of preventive-care programs

While the world commemorated Dec. 1 as World AIDS Day, there was no report of any event increasing an awareness campaign to prevent the spread of the dreaded disease. The lack of the usual commemoration of World AIDS Day comes in the heels of reports about the purported suspension of some preventive care programs by the Department of Public Health, which denied yesterday the suspension of any public health program due to budgetary reasons. However, while Deputy Secretary for Public Health Pete Untalan made the categorical denial, he also conceded that there had been "funding oversight" that would have resulted in the suspension of certain preventive care programs had it not been for the department's efforts.

December 2, 2006

DPL to receive \$550K grant from feds

The Department of Public Lands has been selected to receive \$550,000 from the federal government for the cleanup of properties contaminated with hazardous substances and petroleum. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will present the Brownfields Program funds to DPL on Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2006. According to EPA, DPL will receive hazardous substances grant funds amounting to \$350,000 to perform environmental site assessments, conduct community outreach activities in the languages of CNMI community members, and develop cleanup plans for the 153-acre Marpi Village Homestead site.

Senator proposes another CUC rate bill

Another bill that proposes to amend the current utility rate schedule is now pending in the Legislature. Sen. Paul Manglona has introduced Senate Bill 15-67, which seeks to establish lifeline rates to provide relief to low income customers. Manglona noted that utility rates should provide relief to a certain group of customers based on their economic status, rather than consumption. Currently, the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's rate schedule provides households with electric fees that rise with increased usage. "[T]he low income customers of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation are suffering from high utility expenses that represent a significant part of their income, particularly those who live on a fixed income.

December 2, 2007

Unused dog tags gather dust

An estimated 2,000 dog tags that were ordered by the Saipan Mayor's Office more than 10 years ago remain unused and are gathering dust due to the continued lack of a dog pound on the island. The tags, purchased during the second term of former Saipan mayor Jesus "Gere" Guerrero were never issued, according to Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela. In an interview Thursday, Tudela said he himself cannot start issuing the dog licenses yet if there are no dog kennels available.

Artists' holiday sale starts with a bang

The two-day annual Commonwealth Northern Marianas Islands Artists' Holiday Sale kicked off yesterday with scores of people dropping by at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe to check out the items on display and to get a head start on their holiday shopping. Thirty-five local artists had the chance to showcase their work and sell them to interested individuals. Jeanne Rayphand, who is selling some of her artwork in this year's convention, said she has been involved with the holiday sale since it started two years ago. She talked about the event as being a fun place to go to. "It is not so much about making money; it's about having fun," she said.

First 2 months of FY '14 a challenge for PSS

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Public School System described the first two months of the fiscal year as a challenge following admission that schools have to hold back some of its immediate needs as a result of delayed allotment from the government.

PSS was appropriated a \$33-million budget for the fiscal year 2014. The bulk of this amount—\$28.6 million—is earmarked for personnel cost.

PSS finance director Derek Sasamoto disclosed to *Saipan Tribune* that the system was supposed to get its allotment from the government in a weekly basis amounting to a little over \$600,000. However, he admitted that this didn't come in a timely manner, which has affected the operational needs in schools as well as obligation to vendors.

"We are supposed to receive the allotment in a weekly basis and based on the approved budget, PSS should be getting per weekly a little bit more than \$600,000. Unfortunately, we're not receiving it on time. Of course we cannot ignore the collection situation of the gov-

ernment, but we're hoping that allotments continue and in a timely fashion for PSS," he admitted to *Saipan Tribune*.

Sasamoto said that PSS, due to the delayed allotment, is putting the system's 30-day payables to vendors a priority while deferred school needs until delayed allotment is released.

"We're trying to pay our receivables first and we're holding back on [school] expenditures. I appreciate the schools' efforts as they communicated with me to find out if we receive the funding or not. We all try to work together and I made sure that everyone is aware of our financial situation," said Sasamoto, adding that the leadership team is being informed weekly on this matter.

The finance director said that PSS has more than 900 employees funded by the local budget. *Saipan Tribune* learned that over 400 of these personnel are classroom teachers. But despite having an increased budget this FY 2014 from FY 2013's \$30 million appropriation, Sasamoto admitted that the amount remains inadequate to achieve the desired students-to-teacher ratio in public schools which is 20:1 in elementary level and 25:1 in secondary level.



Sasamoto

"As it stands now, it's way above the desired 20:1 or 25:1 ratio. In fact, we have a handful of schools with 40:1 students-to-teacher ratio but I know they're coping with it. Yes, the \$33 mil-

lion we got is an improvement from last fiscal year, but it's still a very challenging budget for public schools," he added.

Saipan Tribune learned that besides inadequate funding to

fill critical gaps in PSS' operations, there remains a big number of teaching positions that remain vacant at the schools due to difficulty in getting the qualified candidates. These are clas-

sified as hard-to-fill positions mostly in the secondary level, which require some specialties particularly in the area of English, chemistry, geometry, mathematics, science, and others.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIII, Issue No. 239Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

Pathway to citizenship

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

The pathway to citizenship discussion has gone viral and polarized civil discussion unnecessarily. It was stormed up by the lack of due diligence, therefore, ignorance on what the INS law says. Injecting politics into the fray isn't of any help either clearing the air.

Suspicion was further envenomed by the refusal of the NMI's Washington delegate to openly discuss the issue with our people. Such refusal only exacerbates perceptual homophobia of change in the social order of indigenous-rule. Was it hard being upfront with a sense of integrity on this issue?

Clarification would have quelled disoriented exchange from both sides. It now forces a more critical review of Kilili's credibility and competency as a delegate.

Immigration is equally divisive in the U.S. Congress. The debate devolves into the views of doves and hawks, the former pushing compassion while the latter contends it isn't in the best interest of the country.

Pro-immigration doves use economics as a reason to grant citizenship to some 11 million illegal immigrants. Hawks came roaring back saying compassion for the stranger would only bloat the \$17 trillion national debt quizzing why the Trojan Horse for more unbridled spending?

The approval of what's known as the "nuclear option" (death of the filibuster used by the minority to slow down precipitous action on presidential nominees) in the U.S. Senate has cemented political gridlock in Washington.

Therefore, I doubt that this issue (immigration) would ever secure muster when presented in the U.S. Congress next year. Liberal progressive doves would use it for political survival but the Obamacare fraud and fiasco are sufficient political malignancy to throw every career under the bus.

The proposed measure provides a mechanism for residency application not an instant grandfathering of the 13K prospective applicants. The U.S. INS law has requirements that must be met including annual income that turns into a major hurdle. Against leaving it unattended, we'd slam open the floodgates of citizenship for any Tom, Dick, and Harry.

Beyond the sour disenchantment, I question if the injection of "indigenous only" agenda isn't 35 years late? Isn't control of immigration solely the authority of the federal government? Furthermore, isn't it true that sovereignty resides with our national government per Covenant Section 101? Aren't we barking up the wrong tree?

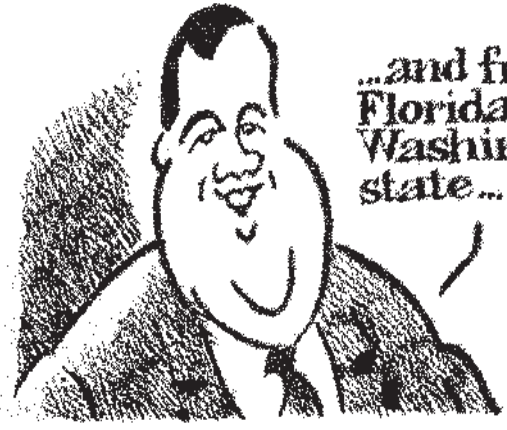
Why engage in polemics dishing hurtful spouts against those who equally have rights to freedom of expression? It's healthy though to agree and disagree though understandable the anger teeming with a history of oppression of the indigenous people by every colonial power since 500 years ago. Perhaps the message is "No Mas." Whatever the case may be, it's equally responsible to view aspirations for greater self-rule within the confines of the Covenant Agreement.

Up ahead, do we stand a chance keeping it "indigenous only" if say a thousand plus soldiers sufficiently populate Tinian and Pagan electing their own municipal and state representatives that effectively shifts and strips indigenous control of the political landscape? Wouldn't this further torch or upset the apple cart on

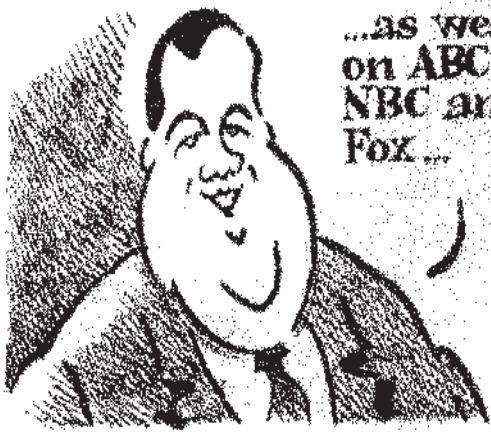
See **PATHWAY** on Next PageMARGULIES
As I've been saying from Maine to California...

As I've been saying from Maine to California...

...and from Florida to Washington state...



...as well as on ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox...



My focus is on governing New Jersey...



AIDS

Pronounced "ayeds," "aides," or "eyeds," it does not matter. The global scourge that awakened the world in 1981 to a new virus has joined the list of institutionalized efforts to "eradicate" it, or, at least, reduce the speed of its pandemic spread, along with TB, malaria, cancer, polio, et al.

AIDS prepared me for the autism stigma that descended on my second family in the early 90s when my wife and I discovered our only two kids (girl and boy) suffers from what was then cautiously referred to as PDD-NOS (pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified), a prelude to the full identification of symptoms identified as autism now referred to as ASD (autism spectrum disorder) to cover a multitude of neurological disorders afflicting the young.

The blame game went on full force. The conservatives latched on genetics. Parental genes do influence behavior of offspring, a concession my spouse was only too quick to own up and cast an eye on my lineage, and cost us a perfectly manageable marriage. The progressives in my circle looked on the rapid increase of chemical input not only in the atmosphere but also on food intake.

Our children were born in Washington, D.C., and much as the humid weather by the Potomac rates better than many of the east coast urban centers, the experiments in the production of chemical food additives and preservatives, the production on chemical warfare and all the sinister designs that went with it, just fueled the anger of the liberal soul. I got unhinged on that one, too, as my children became casualties to a fatherless growing-up when the sentiments of otherwise sane parents went out of control. They failed to handle the management of a neurological situation because they allowed their own fears to get in the way.

World AID's day was observed globally yesterday, a Sunday. We will not drag the readers' mind through the science of HIV/AIDS, the information being readily available in yesterday's Press and the Internet. We do note that the incidence of AIDS related deaths have decreased substantially in 2012 from 2011 figures, so there's a silver lining on the statistics, though not much of a consolation to those who suffer. There is no known cure yet for AIDS, and retroviral medication only retards the progress of the spread but does not eliminate the virus.

I am concerned about our bodies' capacity to mutate with the increase of chemical intrusions into our body metabolism. We are in our current reckoning by nature creatures on an evolutionary process and the specie retards when it fails to evolve from the new assaults on the body material.

We administer pesticides and herbicides on industrial ag-farms that has admittedly alleviated many from famine and poverty, but also made casual the cloning that takes place to produce sturdy and long-shelf produce for our urban center supermarkets. Monocrops weakens plants artificially engineered to produce for the bottom line

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune*Jaime Vergara is a resident of Saipan teaching at the Shenyang Aerospace University in China. His email is pinoypanda2031@aol.com.*

rather than human health. The banana on my table resembles nothing I was familiar with in my youth as plantations mass produce for the wealth of corporations, which, in the United States are deemed as persons!

We are now alarmed at what happened to mother's milk to vulnerable children around the world who are exposed to the chemical intrusions transmitted through natural maternal feeding. Innocent suffering has become a matter of course.

We are also now familiar with the devastating effect of the use of Agent Orange in the defoliation of the Vietnam-Cambodian-Laotian forests in the '70s and early '80s. From our much documented efforts in chemical warfare in the U.S., we were not surprised when the rest of the world was receptive to KGB propaganda that the HIV virus was not a crossover from Simian source to homo sapiens in West Africa from being a racially motivated birth control experiment straight out of the biological warfare pages of the CIA game book.

We previously kept five candles lit on our ledge at night to symbolize our watch of the cancer survivors on our immediate circle of collegial relations. The fifth got snuffed early this year when a colleague in New York had the final version of her epitaph written, quickly replaced by another as another colleague in Saipan now seeks surgery to deal with her newly discovered malignant cells.

The worldwide phenomena on how our bodies respond to "advances" in our food intake has had unexpected consequences. The high incidence of alcoholism and diabetes in the Pacific comes from the body's unaccustomed consumption of distilled spirits and refined sugar.

I am a rotund (da pangzi) Buddha among my students here in China but when I venture out to Hawaii and the United States, I suddenly feel "petite" in size. Not for long. The obesity among China's young is increasing at an alarming rate, which no nutritional program from a centralized government can handle. We have become what we eat, and our habits leave a lot to be desired.

We can lament the passing away of another AIDS victim. Each of us may also start paying attention to what we inject into our metabolic system other than that brightly colored stuff packaged for our gastronomic cravings at the store.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**Citizenship for aliens or what?**

Editor's Note: Due to its length, the following letter is being published in three parts. This is the last part.

What this has really come down to is we have two leaders willing to gamble with our future and their political real estate. It seems that gambling is just keeps coming out of the woodwork for us. It started with the poker machines and they gambled with our economy even giving us all kinds of odds and excuses to get casinos for 10 years and now they are gambling with the political future of the CNMI and their political real estate that is now on the table. The governor and delegate are literally gambling with the political future of the CNMI. I truly understand their attempt to secure a stable and dependable workforce but I think they need the support and approval of the people they work for before committing to something that will forever change the voting and political dynamics of the CNMI in favor of the alien workforce. We should be doing all we can to keep as many of the alien workers that we can but to just give them voting power that could lead to a majority control over the government

after five years is absolutely ridiculous!

When did the governor and the delegate poll the people to see how we felt about this matter—they didn't! What makes them think they are right—what proof do they have of the future and how many alien workers will be granted citizenship after five years? No one knows the answers, not even the feds, so it is all a gamble! Why does the governor only want to talk to the Legislature when he should be giving a public address to tell us why if he fills so strongly about the bill? He is putting a lot of political real estate on the table with this issue and from what I hear over the Coconut Wire it does not look good for him and our delegate! The people gave the governor and our delegate the authority to speak for us but they are truly going to make the people take back that authority in the next election and give it to someone who will respect the people they work for if they continue down this pathway to citizenship.

I wanted to address this racism and discrimination assertions last hopefully to put all of this to rest: FYI, those who don't understand the principles at play in this issue, there is a difference between na-

tionality and ethnicity. To imply or apply a special preference within the CNMI based on nationality is not racism or discrimination as we do it daily at the airport but to imply a special preference based on ethnicity within the same nationality of the CNMI is racism and discrimination. The alien workers are not Americans so racism, discrimination, and equality as citizens are mute issues as they have their own nation! We all know for a fact they certainly wouldn't give non-Filipinos a political majority in the Philippines—we would be dead, nor would I expect them to give ruling political power to a different nation of people—so let's keep it real. If the CNMI was only going to experience a 4-percent increase in voters like the mainland I would be the first to say give them citizenship but we are talking over 100 percent in the CNMI and the math don't lie. Locals have no choice but to say no for our children's political future and I'm sure the average alien worker can understand this hard decision.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman

Although I know everything...

I do not claim to know the rule of the universe, nor claim to be a scholar, but one thing I know and I am thankful for, is to know love as God also have love for me. I have love for all people especially my own kind. Love is expressed through my talents, the sharing of my talents, my experience, and my purpose in life.

I do not claim to be smart like Mr. Francisco R. Agulto of Kanat Tabla, nor claim to be a poly-scientist/economist, but I am thankful for God as he has granted me the opportunity to do what I love the most, which is me sharing my music with others. Through my music I learned that people can enjoin with each other through love.

I learned that people can still care for each other and look after one another's interest when love is centered between us. But if we continue to have people like Mr. Agulto in our midst, we will fail because wisdom can tell us that such a kind often destroy, than to build up our life. They create schisms amongst people who have

lived decades with each other. I suggest to you Mr. Agulto that you read the bible starting with the wise sayings found in the book of 1 Corinthians 13. There you will find what real love is.

If all men were not created equal, then you Mr. Agulto are saying that you are of a different kind, one above, or below others. One, I might add, of a supposedly much greater or lesser kind than what God has purposed all to have red blood in our system. Mr. Adolph Hitler killed millions of Jews to make a better Germany, but God did not permit him to succeed in his plan. Germany is now made up of different kinds of people, all living together harmoniously. It will still continue to have problems just as any other place, but at the very least they are able to work things out together rather than pointing fingers. The CNMI is no different than they are.

Slavery in the United States was abolished by virtue of "All men

are created equal" and therefore, Thomas Jefferson's slavery is put to an end. Apartheid in South Africa was crushed, so as segregation in the States also. You see Ankie, problems tend to arise when we want our cake and eat it too.

My favorite line when I was a radio personality was "My name is Frank, but when I grow up I'm gonna be Francisco" Or "You have to be Frank to be Francisco." It actually meant being mature.

So Mr. Agulto although you claim to know the difference between equality of men and what not, and you yourself have not the love needed to view true equality, as you stand, you are nothing more than a harmonica blowing out of tune. That's it folks...Peace and love to all.

Alexandro "Colonel" Sablan
Dandan, Saipan

Ceremonious practice in futility

The Senate has filed the Saipan casino bill meaning it is essentially killed. I sat in both public hearings on the bill held on Saipan and listened to oral testimonies.

It was not surprising that 90 percent of those who testified were in favor of passing the Saipan Casino bill. The 10 percent that opposed the bill still cling to the old and obsolete excuse that casino brings in prostitution, drug trafficking, and murder. But even this group nor the panel of senators disputed the testimony of one individual when he asked the senators and those at the hearing this question, "if casino brings in prostitution, drugs, and homicide to the community why is Tinian still supporting and fighting to keep casino operations in their island?"

It must be good for the community of Tinian since its people and its leaders want casino operation to stay on Tinian, am I right? The panel of senators consisted of six of which five are from Tinian and Rota. I knew from those hearings that the Saipan casino bill was not going anywhere because of the six senators, three were from Tinian which also chaired the committee, two from Rota, and one from Saipan.

The hearings were more of a ceremonious practice in futility because I knew the Rota and Tinian senators heard the support of the bill (90 percent in support) but chose not to listen. Supporters of the casino bill made more sense to me than the 10 percent opposition although I am neither in support nor against casino as I came to the hearings to learn more and to listen to the pros and cons of the industry.

Why the bill supporters were more convincing? They presented facts that Saipan is the breadwinner of the CNMI and has the capacity to generate the potential revenues needed by the CNMI government from casino operation.

I read part of the bill that even offered percentages of revenues to be earmarked for Rota and Tinian. Now, that makes sense to me since Rota and Tinian don't have anything to offer Saipan and never did give anything to Saipan for that matter. Tinian keeps over 89 percent of the Tinian Dynasty casino money and gives crumbs to the general fund and gets it right back and more through Tinian appropriation by the Legislature.

Even with all these goodies from Saipan, Tinian still cannot get

its finances straight. They are in deficit status year after year then blame each other on inaccurate casino revenue projections versus actual receipt, etc.

The bottom line here is that Tinian has a welfare and selfish mindset that Uncle Saipan will always provide no matter that Tinian does not give Saipan anything. The Rota casino initiative crashed before it took off because of uncontrolled ambitions of its casino commissioners who corrupted the lone casino operation.

But of great importance here also is the fact that the senators from Rota wanted to support Juan Pan and Joaquin Torres (CHC chairman) for video lottery (which passed the Senate). Senators Ray Yumul and Ralph V. Torres are bedfellows of the Rota and Tinian anti-Saipan casino. They certainly were not looking after Saipan's interest and the CNMI collectively. They are cherry-pickers to enhance their political ambitions.

Jose F. Arriola
Koblervielle, Saipan

PATHWAY

From Page 10

"indigenous only" rule? Gee! Our canoe seems riddled with a myriad of holes, true?

Scatter shot indigenous issues

It's sad how every single administration and Legislature has grandly ignored the role and functions of the constitutionally established Indigenous Affairs Office. Having served at the top post for two years (with zero funding), I could only lament the lack of conviction elected officials have given the culture and traditions of these isles.

Adding salt to the wound, legislators and governors have braved delivering speeches of the importance of culture and tradition. Their ill-conceived remarks quickly disappeared into the whippy whirl of the trade winds chasing the rainbow into the sunset. You hear the same redundant poetry every year with a slight twist—same ma-

terial, different year. I had to conclude that each speaker shares a commonality with the next: no conviction or commitment. Call it permissible "official lies" in perpetuity.

I pushed and failed to secure some \$36 million for a cultural center. That was shot down soundly by the Legislature amidst a declaration to fix the water system here.

Perhaps the time is most fitting for all key players to converge and begin the realignment of a rather scattered agenda that compromise any meaningful planning of indigenous issues via the consolidation of programs under a single roof.

Unless a coherent plan is forged, we will continue doing what we do best: brinkmanship ignoring that it all begins with the self. It definitely requires a committed and proactive visionary at the top.

Related issues

The use of twisted view of Section 805 pushing for retention of Article XII is a prime tool used in statist or communist countries to grant its dictators "control" of the people. The NMI isn't a statist

government but a democratic republic. Is there anything so egregiously wrong protecting the rights of landowners to own their land 100 percent?

■■■

The deepening entrenchment into provincialism and the NMD's "only" agenda is a dollar short and a day late. We have a permanent agreement with the U.S. since 1978. It's a mutual consent provision that requires both sides agreeing to another round of negotiations.

I doubt that this is forthcoming from Washington anytime soon. DC is hung-up in the disastrous Obamacare fiasco trying to navigate saving the millions of folks across the country destined to lose their health policies. The king of lies finds himself naked.






■■■

The cut of pension pay for retirees is a serious indicator of our fiscal posture that is far from poised and encouraging. Hope revenue generation inches its way in upwards spiral. Otherwise, the 25 percent cut could likely devolve into additional cuts. Jeesuszzzz!

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲85° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲86 ▼79
Palau	Showers	▲86 ▼76
Yap	Showers	▲88 ▼76
Chuuk	Showers	▲85 ▼80
Pohnpei	Showers	▲86 ▼76
Kosrae	Showers	▲86 ▼76
Majuro	Showers	▲84 ▼79

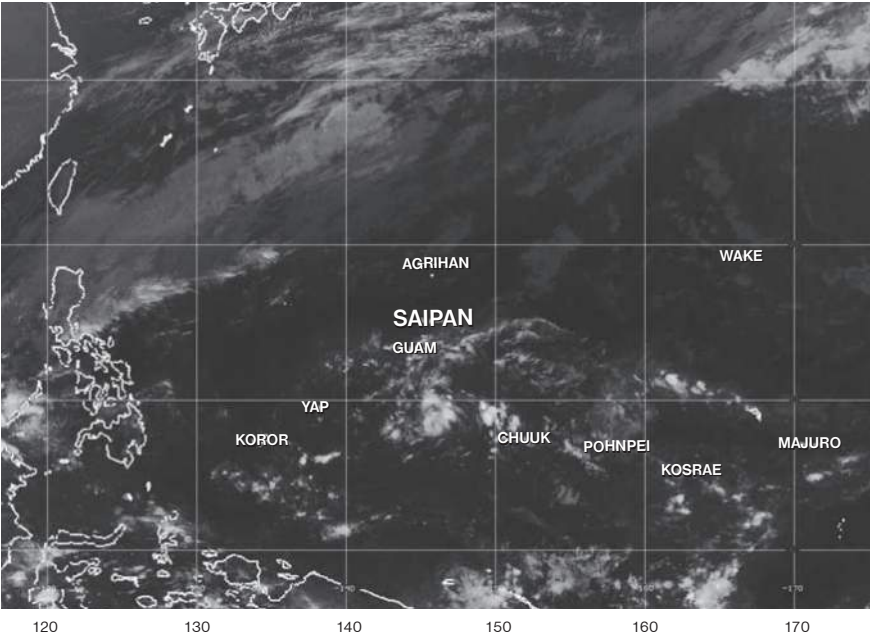
Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲71 ▼60
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲52 ▼26
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲72 ▼60
Honolulu	Showers	▲80 ▼70
London	Cloudy	▲47 ▼39
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲77 ▼51
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲87 ▼77
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲87 ▼54
Miami	Showers	▲79 ▼64
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲46 ▼32
Osaka	Sunny	▲58 ▼45
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲45 ▼31
Pusan	Sunny	▲54 ▼39
Rome	Showers	▲58 ▼49
Salem	Showers	▲52 ▼42
San Francisco	Sunny	▲67 ▼49
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲47 ▼32
Tokyo	Sunny	▲59 ▼42
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲48 ▼36

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
12:44 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
7:34 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
12:56 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
6:12 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2013

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A shear line extends southwestward from 25N150E to beyond 130E at 16N. Cloudiness and patchy showers are found northwest of the Marianas along and up to 370 miles northwest of this boundary. A trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Guam within 60 miles of a line from 12N142E to 14N147E. A near-equatorial trough stretches eastward from 2N130E through a weak circulation centered southwest of Chuuk near 1N148E then turns northeastward to end at 10N152E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are present over Chuuk within 100 miles of a line from 10N147E to 6N153E. Low-level convergence is triggering scattered showers south of Pohnpei between 3N and 6N from 158E to 160E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:28 AM	5:45 PM
Tuesday	6:28 AM	5:45 PM
Wednesday	6:29 AM	5:45 PM
Thursday	6:29 AM	5:46 PM
Friday	6:30AM	5:46 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:18 AM	5:05 PM
Tuesday	6:21 AM	6:05 PM
Wednesday	7:23 AM	7:07 PM
Thursday	8:24 AM	8:11 PM
Friday	9:21 AM	9:13 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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 - Fax: (670) 235-3740
 - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 2, 2013

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) UA5070 4:15am 5:05am Daily UA5068 8:40am 9:30am Daily UA5038 2:20pm 3:10pm 2, 3, 6 UA5078 6:05pm 6:55pm Daily UA5072 9:50pm 10:40pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN UA5069 2:45am 3:35am Daily UA5071 7:15am 8:05am Daily UA5039 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 UA5077 4:45pm 5:35pm Daily UA5079 8:30pm 9:20pm Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) UA5039 1:35pm 2:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) UA5038 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) UA5039 2:40pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN UA5038 1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR) DL287 6:05am 11:25pm 2, 6 via NRT	PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN DL298 4:35am 3:00pm 3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:05am 8:40am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 DL297 4:30pm 7:20pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:55pm 1:30am+1 1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 1, 4, 5, 7	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:00pm 1:50am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 D2102 2:20am 5:50am 3 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ6063 3:30am 7:20am 4, 7 D2104 2:00pm 5:30pm 6 OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN D2101 8:30am 2:00pm 3 OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily D2103 7:30pm 1:00am+1 6 OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 OZ6053 9:10pm 2:30am+1 3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) MU764 4:10am 8:00am 1, 5	BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN MU763 7:55pm 3:10am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5070/191 4:15am 9:05am 3, 6 via GUM DL287/473 6:05am 10:30pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT UA5068/PR111 8:40am 4:45pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM UA5038/183 2:20pm 9:30pm 2 via GUM UA5078/183 6:05pm 9:50pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM OZ604/703 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily PR110/UA5072 7:35am 5:35pm 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM DL172/288 7:40am 1:30am+1 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT UA190/5079 10:00am 5:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:30pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA184/5071 10:55pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM UA184/5071 11:59pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:10am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN UA5068/179 8:40am 10:35pm 1, 5 via GUM UA5038/179 2:20pm 10:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ604/749 3:20pm 11:00pm Daily via ICN	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ746/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ724/605 1:50pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN UA180/5071 11:10pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 1750	17:50	18:20	Daily	Tinian-Saipan			
Saipan-Rota				FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nothing immoral

I invited a close friend and his wife to the house about a week ago and after dinner we all sat in the veranda just enjoying the evening breeze and the solemn beautiful sunset. We had a good cordial time and our conversation switched and volleys from subjects and topics of interest about our NMI. Before we ended our evening we started asking each other: If there is a message that we can send to our elected leaders about an important matter, what will that be? I think as you may agree, this will result in a truckload. Imagine if a few hundred of our voting citizens could put together no more than three points of interest or messages to all elected officials in the CNMI government, that will be something insightful as fruit for thoughts and something for them to consider. Don't you think so? My friend went home as we ended our evening together, but for some reason we did not finish this part of our conversation. Nonetheless, this is what I want to say, and I ask him also to follow as well as a way to start the momentum of discourse, and appeal to others to follow on with the flow.

So following are my three

messages to our elected leaders for their information.

The NMI islands is not the United States. The land mass of the three inhabited islands is a given and by rough estimate may not be more than 100 square miles of habitable open spaces good enough to sustain an finite number of people within a given acceptable and livable density capacity. There is no way that these islands would welcome some 5.6 billion people of the world with open arms to settle and thrive in these islands, and certainly that will be impossible. Neither would these islands be able to welcome the some 350 million U.S. citizens in the United States. And the list would include the millions of Koreans, Japanese, Filipinos, Indians, and the nations of the world altogether. These islands can only sustain its own indigenous population. If any of our elected leaders could not figure this out, governing in the NMI is perpetually problematic and on that note our elected leaders are seriously out of touch with the present day reality.

On second point, no one would deny or object to the fact that 80 percent of all gross receipt taxes paid to the CNMI

government come from 20 percent of the businesses on these islands. Again, this is a given and all records and information should be captured and administered by the government's revenue collection office. The wisdom and principle here suggest that it would be more productive to spend more time and energy governing on the matter that has a larger effect. In other words, if we spend more time focusing on trivial many matters, we waste time and resources and would realize less productive outcome. But, zeroing in on the vital few would produce more beneficial outcome and returns. If one can figure out what these 20 percent of the total business enterprises are, we should be able to figure out the total number of people being fully employed in these enterprises. The summation of the workforce and gross revenue data, would tell what the formula or economic modeling that would be applicable and useful. Of course, this would take more imagination and forward thinking, but someone in government is responsible for this issue. Let those with jurisdiction for this type of work do their work. If our elected leaders are able to

know where the revenue concentration is flowing from, then all public policy focus should be directed where the larger impact are derived and sustained. This will also tell that the issue of overpopulation must take center stage in public policy formulation. The social costs of PSS, CHC, DPS, CUC, and DPW all are driven by the size of the population. If any of our leaders think that the CNMI is not burdened by over population, it is our duty as voters to educate all those that formulates our laws, and we pray that they actually listen and carry on for the good of the CNMI. But, then again we can only do just as much until

the next election cycle.

Mr. Richard Pierce recently coined a doctrine in that the regulating effect of the CNMI economy and social climate is no longer tolerable as his place of abode and the basis for his cause to move out. This is important in that our leaders should learn from and by this revelation that the NMI economy does have a regulating effect. For good or bad, there is nothing that straps anyone whether a person is an expatriate or a non-citizen to stick around in these islands, hence, all are free to leave the sanctuary of these islands on their own free will. No one is more permanent in these islands than the people that are root-

ed in permanent sanction as the indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian people. Our problem is ours to keep, we survived more turbulent moments in our history than the materialistic nature of the present time. There is nothing immoral that these islands are known as the islands of the Chamorro and Carolinian. And, public policy should be carved out to ensure that these islands are known for the indigenous flavor of the Chamorro and Carolinian people. Indeed, nothing is immoral about that because it is the only fact the history of these islands had told.

Francisco R. Agulto
Kanat Tabla, Saipan



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I LOVE SAIPAN

Large crowd at Black Friday Sale



THOMAS MANGLONA II

People crowd each other inside the I Love Saipan, Ever Blue building during its 2am Black Friday sale last Nov. 29.

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

The I Love Saipan and Ever Blue Black Friday Sale started at 2am but hundreds of people camped on the streets of Garapan hours before the doors opened to guarantee their spot in a long line of customers all wanting to get their hands on discounted accessories and apparel.

According to store manager Leo Ruloked, last Friday's sale required months of preparation and countless hours of inventory.

"It takes months of planning. Our buyers work hard to bring in merchandise from abroad to make sure that there is enough inventory for the customers to buy what they want and need," Ruloked, who has worked with Ever Blue for the past four years, said. "We have a lot of containers come in that I can't even count. Inventory is the most important part to this Black Friday."

Ruloked shared that the annual Black Friday event was initiated in 2011 and began around 4am.

One shopper Sylvia Preza

said she visited the store in advance to pinpoint the items she will be running to buy when the doors opened early Friday morning.

Lannie Fernandez, an employee, has worked with Ever Blue for the past four years and described the turnout as "positive." Fernandez took her post at the exit door to check the customer's shopping bags before they left the building.

"I just grabbed anything I saw," said shopper Michelle Sablan. "I do not want to do it ever again. This is my first and last time."

Another shopper literally shopped-till-she-almost-dropped. "I almost fainted," Shaina Santiago said. Santiago described the scene as she rushed in the store to grab her favorite brands. "There were people fighting and shoving. I almost tripped and fell. I am happy that I am done."

The nine-hour sale was wiped out within the first hours of opening its doors. Dozens of locals enjoyed discounted prizes and continued to scour the island for other Black Friday sales the same morning.

BoG declares 4Q dividends

BankGuam Holding Company announced that its board of directors declared an \$0.1250 per share quarterly cash dividend at the board's regular meeting held on Nov. 25, 2013. The dividend will be paid on Dec. 31, 2013 to shareholders of record as of Dec. 16, 2013.

"The continuing profitability of the bank has allowed us to pay dividends this quarter to our shareholders, and represent a favorable return on their investment," explained president and chair of the board Lourdes "Lou" A. Leon Guerrero. (BoG)



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Bright minds brought together can make a world of difference. With the challenges we face in our CNMI, there has never been a greater need for leaders to start working better together.

IMPORTANT DATES:

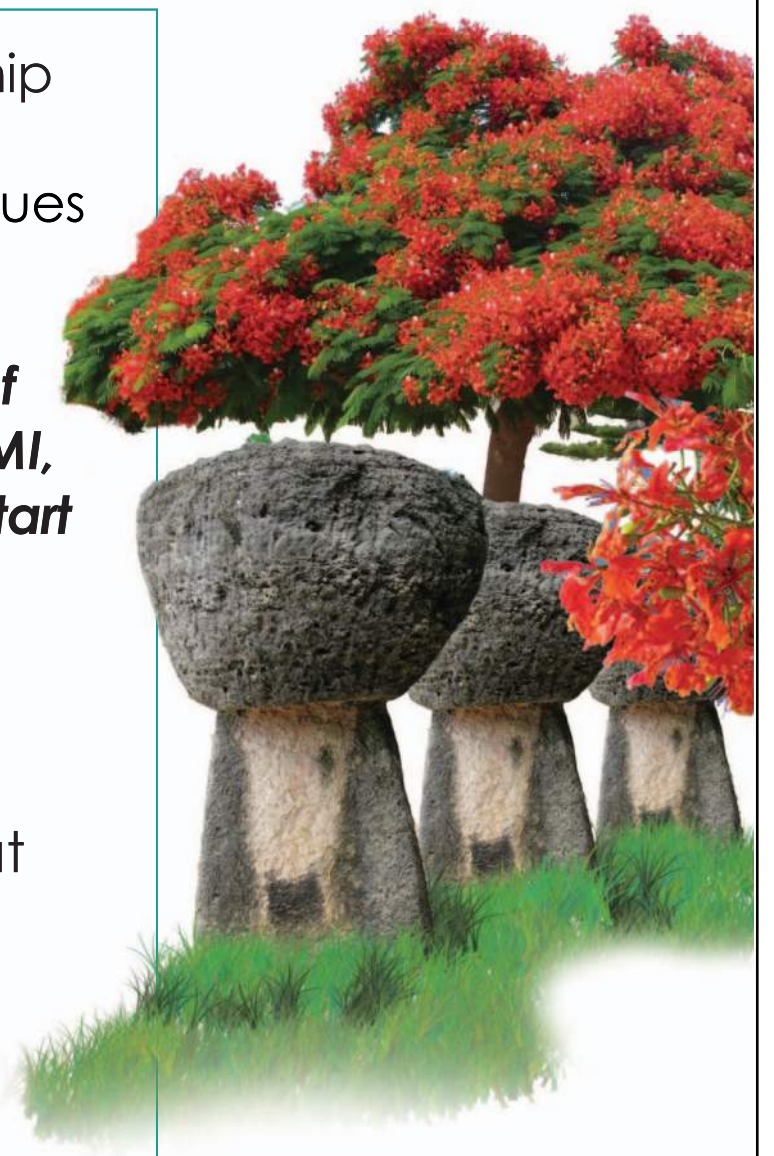
- December 31st: Application deadline
- February 7-8th: Mandatory Weekend Retreat

REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be between the ages of 25-45
- Submit completed application
- Provide two (2) letters of recommendation
- Must be able to attend weekend retreat and meet minimum attendance requirement.

A tuition fee is assessed following selection to cover fellowship expenses for the entire year. Financial assistance is available, see website for details.

To request an application or for more information, please visit our website at **www.pcf-marianas.com** or contact Maggie Sablan or Merlie Tolentino at 234-0609 ext 117/118 or send an email to administrator@pcf-marianas.com.



“Fellows will be in an environment that will foster open mindedness, creativity and constructive problem solving... Fellows will be better able to lead, not only in their respective industries, but in the bigger picture of the communities they serve and the islands in which they live.”

Advertising Feature

33 years of authentic service to visitors and locals alike

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

It has been sitting at the heart of Garapan for the past 33 years serving the island of Saipan and welcoming thousands of visitors every year, providing them with quality service, meals from world class chefs, and rooms fit for royalty.

Hyatt Regency Saipan will be celebrating its 33rd anniversary tonight at its renowned Sand Cas-

tle Theater with a seven-course meal, entertainment courtesy of Sandcastle, and a raffle (see related story) that will help raise funds for the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance (MINA).

In its fundraising dinner tonight, 33 years of hospitality service will also be celebrated.

"You have the natural calamities, financial crisis, and the fluctuation of tourism but we have been afloat and going very strong," said Hyatt marketing and communications assistant manager Luis Villagomez.

The Hyatt has definitely been strong and standing as the sole international brand hotel on the island—which is some-

thing that Villagomez described as "quite a success."

From its humble beginnings in 1980 the Hyatt has grown to be one of the prime tourist and local destinations for weddings, business conferences, family gatherings, and vacationing.

"Nothing at the Hyatt has changed that much. We still provide the same authentic hospitality to our associates, owners, and visitors," Villagomez added. "It is being the preferred brand in all the facets we serve and have that we continue to develop."

These facets include 317 rooms and suites, Club Elan facilities, Duty free shops, Miyako Japanese Restaurant, Giovanni's Ital-

Hyatt's 33rd anniversary celebration tonight

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Reviving its "Heart of Gold" concept, Hyatt Regency Saipan will host its benefit dinner for the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance and also mark its 33rd anniversary tonight at 6pm at the Sand Castle Theater.

"Hyatt Regency Saipan takes pride in reviving this signature dining experience to benefit an organization we strongly believe in," said the hotel's general manager Nick Ishikawa in an interview with the *Saipan Tribune*.

MINA was chosen to benefit from this fundraiser based on the votes cast by the hotel's leadership committee. Hyatt assistant manager for marketing and communications, Luis Villagomez, said that

the leadership thought MINA truly embodies the four pillars that are advanced by the Hyatt Thrive—environmental sustainability, economic development and investment, education and personal advancement, and health and wellness.

"This is the beginning of a new partnership that focuses on our mission to protect the environment," said MINA board member, fundraising chair, and co-founder Fran Castro.

"We are extremely grateful that Hyatt has selected the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance as the beneficiary for the 33rd Anniversary Celebration," said MINA chair Frankie Eliptico.

The Sand Castle theatre will be draped in elegant hues of gold and black, accompanied by a seven-course menu provide by

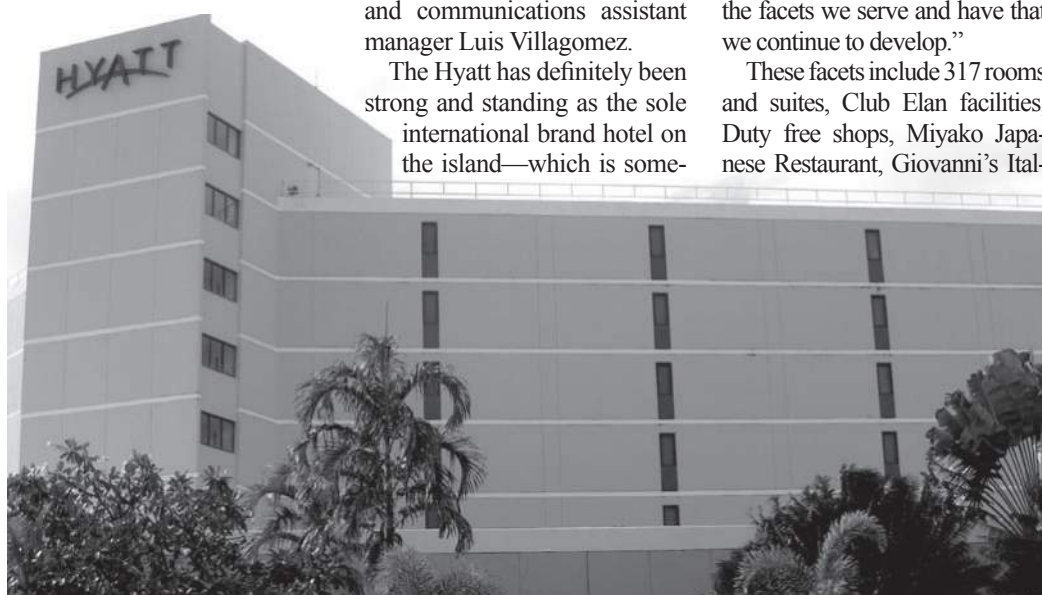
the culinary master chefs at the Hyatt spearheaded by executive chef Gabriele Colombo.

The night will commence with a free public Christmas tree lighting that will illuminate the entire hotel led by the Make-A-Wish Foundation kids.

The seven-course dinner will also feature an auction, raffle drawing, and other activities that will all raise funds benefiting MINA.

The Saipan Pacific Winds band, at the helm of band instructor William DeWitt, will be providing the nights entertainment along with magic acts courtesy of Sand Castle.

The benefit dinner costs \$100 and \$80 for club at the Hyatt members. The community is invited to the Christmas tree and hotel lighting at the hotel lobby starting at 6pm.



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

From its humble beginnings in 1980 the Hyatt Regency Saipan has grown to be one of the prime tourist and local destinations for weddings, business conferences, family gatherings, and vacationing.

ian Restaurant, I Sagua Spa, golf, swimming pools, a fitness center, meeting and conference facilities, wedding venues, catering services, and wedding services—all of which distinguishes the "Hyatt" from a "hotel."

Although not much has changed for the Hyatt, tourism

has. Villagomez recognized that the tourism industry, especially in the CNMI, has changed over the past years. The Hyatt now accommodates thousands of visitors from Russia, China, Japan, Korea, and many other places.

"We have a mix of different cultures and nationalities that stay here. This makes us proud to be able to serve different cultures at the same time," he said.

The Hyatt, however, doesn't

only expose its visitors to their authentic island hospitality and luxuries facilities. They provide transportation and tours around the island to Saipan's main tourist attractions and activities—such as diving at the Grotto or the Thursday night street market.

Both leisure and business travelers have unequivocally enjoyed a balance of relaxation and activities at the Hyatt for more than three decades now.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hyatt Regency Saipan boasts of 317 rooms and suites, Club Elan facilities, Duty free shops, Miyako Japanese Restaurant, Giovanni's Italian Restaurant, I Sagua Spa, golf, swimming pools, a fitness center, meeting and conference facilities, wedding venues, catering services, and wedding service

Hyatt history

Hyatt was founded by Jay Pritzker in 1957 when he purchased the Hyatt House motel adjacent to the Los Angeles International Airport.

Over the following decade, Jay Pritzker and his brother Donald Pritzker, working together with other Pritzker family business interests, grew the company into a North American management and hotel ownership company, which became a public company in 1962.

In 1968, Hyatt International

was formed and subsequently became a separate public company. Hyatt Corporation and Hyatt International Corporation were taken private by the Pritzker family business interests in 1979 and 1982, respectively.

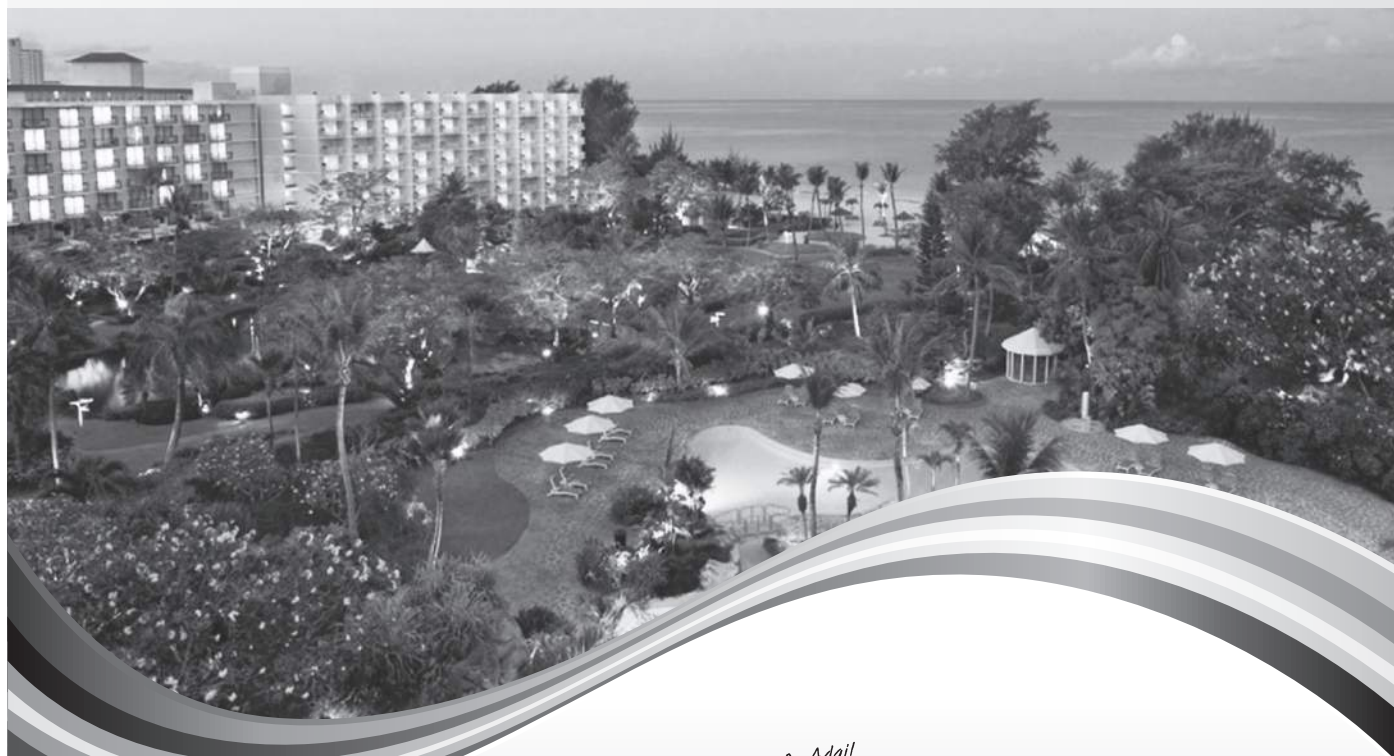
On December 31, 2004, substantially all of the hospitality assets owned by Pritzker family business interests, including Hyatt Corporation and Hyatt International Corporation, were consolidated under a single entity, now named Hyatt Hotels Corporation. (www.hyatt.com)



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Greetings from

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Public Health Dental Clinic Services reopens

The Division of Public Health Services is pleased to announce the reopening of the Public Health Dental Clinic Services.

Made possible through a grant by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, the main goal of the Dental Clinic is to provide access to oral health care to our most vulnerable population, including children aged 0-19 years, pregnant women, and underserved adults. Key initiatives in reaching such goal includes:

- Increasing preventive baby visits by their first birthday or eruption of first tooth

- Continuing the fluoride varnish program at the Head Start Centers

- Continuing the sealant application program as needed for 1st, 2nd, 5th, and 6th graders

- Implement oral health campaigns targeted for children to increase their awareness on early intervention of dental caries.

The PH Dental Clinic will continue to promote access to oral health services for our school-aged children through oral health promotion and disease prevention services specifically through the School Dental Program and outreach activities such as those at the WIC Clinic and day care centers. The PH Dental Clinic services includes

dental health and oral hygiene education, brushing and flossing instructions (at the PH Dental Clinic), oral examination, and fluoride varnish and sealant applications. The PH Dental Clinic will also be re-establishing the fluoride varnish application services at the Head Start Centers and the sealant application activity for 1st, 2nd, 5th, and 6th graders at Public School System very soon.

Additionally, the clinic offers patients a range of preventive and curative services such as examinations, cleaning, x-rays, extractions, fillings, crowns, root canals, and gum disease therapy. It is staffed by one dentist, a dental hygienist and four support staff. Communication with resident directors from Rota and Tinian has been established to offer dental services in the two islands.

"We're looking forward to partnering with our local community, including parents and schools. Their involvement, engagement, and support are important to decreasing childhood dental caries. Evidence shows that oral diseases share important common risk factors with the four leading chronic diseases—diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, cancer, and chronic respiratory diseases—including unhealthy diet, tobacco use,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Agnes Nabetinan, Margaret Aldan, Elizabeth Cruz, Shally Smith, Dr. Omar Sudqi, Division of Public Health director Roxanne Diaz, and program manager Agnes Ripple pose for a group photo as the Public Health Dental Clinic Services reopens.

and excessive alcohol," said Roxanne Diaz, Public Health director.

The Dental Clinic is now open to see patients. To make an appointment or to get more

information, call 236-8369 from 7:30am to 11:30am and 12:30pm to 4:30pm, Monday

through Friday (except holidays). Walk-ins are also accepted. (PR)

Residents eligible for discounted tuition in western US states

Residents who are looking to earn their bachelor's or master's degrees are now eligible for discounted tuition rates at many universities and colleges in the western U.S.

The reduced tuition was made possible when the Commonwealth became a member of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), whose Western Undergraduate Exchange program allows CNMI residents to be eligible to request a discounted tuition rate at institutions like Arizona State University (ASU), Boise State University, University of Nevada at Las Angeles (UNLV), California State University, and Washington State University.

The president of WICHE, Dr. Daving Longanecker, will be visiting the CNMI this week to meet with local and regional leaders. He will also be making a presentation at the upcoming Micronesian Chief Executive Summit that will be held this coming week on Saipan.

"The CNMI's membership in WICHE has made earning a degree in the U.S. mainland much more affordable for residents because they would not have to pay the full out of state tuition like they would typically have to if they move to a state like Washington or California or Nevada," said NMC President Dr. Sharon Hart.

"For instance, students who move from the CNMI to Las

Vegas to enroll at the University of Nevada's Culinary Arts Management program, for example, would have had to pay the nonresident tuition fee of \$19,655 per year," said President Hart. "Now that the CNMI is a member of WICHE, CNMI residents who enroll at UNLV are now eligible to pay \$8,618, representing a savings of more than \$11,000 a year."

"Of course, we hope that students begin their studies at the Northern Marianas College because there are many advantages to starting at a community college," added President Hart. "But if students are looking to further their studies after attending NMC by pursuing their bachelor's or master's degree in areas that are not offered locally, we would like to help them as well."

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education is a regional organization that, until recently, had 15 member states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawai'i, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. The CNMI became the 16th member of WICHE last year after considerable support from the CNMI governor and members of the legislature.

For more information about WICHE, visit www.wiche.edu or www.marianas.edu. (NMC)

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Fleet Card members are not eligible for this promotion. No purchase necessary. See Saipan Mobil Stations for details.

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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES



RFQ14-GOV-017

Gualo Rai Reservoir Replacement

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting statements of qualification (SOQ) from licensed architectural and engineering firms (A&E) for the Design of the Gualo Rai Reservoir Replacement Project, Gualo Rai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The full Request for Qualifications (RFQ) documents may be obtained by contacting Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager, by telephone at (670) 664-2274 or by email at psas@saipan.com. All questions concerning this proposal shall be submitted in writing no later than 4:00 pm, November 22, 2013 to Mr. Sasamoto by facsimile at (670) 664-2279.

The design and construction of the Gualo Rai Reservoir Replacement Project is made possible by a grant from the Office of the Insular Affairs (OIA), U.S. Department of the Interior and requires a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) clearance.

One original and four (4) copies shall be submitted to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than **2:00 PM. (CNMI local time), on December 11, 2013.**

The SOQ shall be marked **"Gualo Rai Reservoir Replacement Project, RFQ14-GOV-017"**. For firms within the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of SOQ must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **2:00 p.m. (CNMI local time), on December 11, 2013.** Firms located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than **2:00 p.m. (CNMI local time), on December 11, 2013,** and may be transmitted via facsimile to **(670) 664-1515** or email procurement@pticom.com. For firms located outside the CNMI, one original and four (4) copies of SOQ must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **December 11, 2013** AND must be received no later than **December 20, 2013.** Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all SOQ and to waive any imperfections in any SOQ if to do so shall be in the best interests of the CNMI. All SOQ shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.

/s/Eloy S. Inos
Governor, CNMI

/s/Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply

11 parishes join inaugural Diocesan Youth Camp



THOMAS MANGLONA II
Above, students from different parishes hold hands during one of the worship songs sing-along segments of last Friday's Inaugural Diocesan Youth Camp hosted by the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa. Right, youth camp coordinators Sister Emma Lusterio, L.J. Castro, and Vir Abueme officially welcome and open the event.



By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

One-hundred-ninety students from 11 parishes diverged on the grounds of Mount Carmel School last Friday for the Inaugural Diocesan Youth Camp hosted by the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa.

The parishioners include teens and youth directors from San Antonio, St. Jude, Mt. Carmel Cathedral, San Jose (Saipan), San Vicente, Santa Soledad, Kristo Rai, Santa Remedios, San Roque, San Jose

(Tinian), and the El Shaddai church group.

Coordinator Sister Emma Lusterio described the camp as a way for youth to come together in faith, fellowship, and prayer.

According to Sister Lusterio the one night camp is one of the many programs the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa has held to close the Year of Faith—which ended last Nov. 24.

"We decided to create this Youth Camp to strengthen the bond of the youth ministry in the Diocese," Sister Lusterio

said. "We want to increase their faith day after day in their life. This is a venue for them to develop their faith through each other."

An opening mass was held by Fr. Ryan P. Jimenez together with the clergy in the diocese followed by a pilgrim walk.

Co-coordinators of the Youth Commission team Vir Abueme and L.J. Castro expressed the same sentiments.

"I am glad that we have many teens joining us. This is truly a time for us to come together through Christ," Abueme told the *Saipan Tribune*.

Students participated in fun-in-the-sun activities and also watched presentations given by each of the parishes on how to be closer to the Lord. Participants also joined in confessions.

Special guest speakers presented speeches at the camp. Guam Youth coordinator Fr. Michael Crisostomo, Fr. Ken Hazel, John Hosono, and Carol Hosono were among a line of speakers who discussed vocation, prayer, and marriage life with the young participants.

"I had a lot of fun in the youth camp. I got to see old friends and make new ones as well. The activities were creative, and I learned of some of the past experiences different people had and gave them some of my past experiences as well," said Mount Carmel youth parish member Sam Soledad at the end of the camp. "The camp taught me a lot about devotion and about the things we go through for the Lord. All in all, I had an enlightening experience and fun time, and I hope we do this again soon."



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PUBLIC NOTICE

(This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD Funds.)

Governor Eloy S. Inos, Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, and the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman, Ms. Marcie M. Tomokane, wish to announce that its Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER) for Program Year 2012 is available for review. Comments made by the general public should be submitted no later than 4:30 p.m. on December 18, 2013. Written comments must be submitted to the NMHC Office in Garapan, Saipan, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, or by contacting Ms. Jeannie P. Mafnas, Planner/Grant Writer, at 234-9447/7689.

The report will be submitted to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Honolulu Office, by December 31, 2013. The CAPER encompasses the performance assessment of all HUD-funded programs, administered by the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands

The report is available at the NMHC Central Office in Saipan and at the respective NMHC Field Offices in Rota and Tinian during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/Marcie M. Tomokane
Chairwoman of the Board



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-14-004

AIRPORT ROAD RESTORATION FOR SAN VICENTE SERVICE AREA EXTENSION PROJECT, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Airport Road Restoration for San Vicente Service Area Extension Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

This work consists of excavation of flowable fill, and installation of asphalt concrete to replace pavement areas cut by CUC to install the San Vicente Service Area Extension Waterline project. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC and the Department of Public Works. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **30 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The Bid Package may be picked-up, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) on an electronic disk file; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **November 27, 2013 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) Original and Seven (7) Hard Copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Airport Road Restoration for San Vicente Service Area Extension Project" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on December 12, 2013**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on December 2, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Procurement & Supply Manager, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant – via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

CHARLES WARREN
Acting Executive Director

Rhea Backe is Saipan's 2013 Top Chef



THOMAS MANGLONA II

Rhea Backe, 3rd Annual Saipan's Next Top Chef winner, poses for a photo with her "Steak Portobello with Orange Marmalade" dish after last Saturday's competition at the Pacific Islands Club.

By **THOMAS MANGLONA II**
CORRESPONDENT

Rhea Backe was bestowed the title of "Saipan's Top Chef" with her longtime family "Steak Portobello with Orange Marmalade" original recipe in the 3rd Annual Saipan's Next Top Chef competition organized by the Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation last Saturday at the Pacific Islands Club.

Backe, a mother of three with fifteen years of home cooking experience, reigned supreme over some of Saipan's veteran chefs—Alfredo Capacio of Fiesta Resort & Spa, Keim Eina of Hyatt Regency Saipan, Marvin Bisalen of Pacific Islands Club, and Richard Meimban of Marianas Resort & Spa.

"I always try to create something new out of my refrigerator," Backe said. "I feel very happy. A lot of my friends have been telling me that I am a good cook. I always see different cooking competitions and I was determined to join this one as my first one."

Backe, who moved to Saipan two years ago from Texas, said she was hesitant to join the competition at first, being the sole female and non-hotel chef, but decided to "because it is a good contribution and it is fun."

Her recipe included Portobello mushrooms, orange marmalade, and coconut milk, which she said was the main

ingredient.

Backe won \$200 in cash, gift certificates from Delta Airlines, a cooking pan from Taro Sue, and a PIC Magellan gift certificate.

Hyatt's Eina garnered second place with his Certified Angus Beef on Taro Yam Cake. Enai

has 12 years of cooking experience as a commis chef at the Hyatt and eventually promoted to chef de partie earlier this year. Meimban, from the Mariana Resort & Spa, earned the third place title. Meimban, with six years of cooking experience in the Philippines and 12 years of cooking experience at the Marianas Resort and Spa, presented his Grilled Beef with Mashed Breadfruit.

Each of the chefs started simultaneously and had exactly 20 minutes to prepare their unique dish for a panel of three judges. The judges were Guam's Food Guy Ken Stuart, CNMI Attorney General Joey P. San Nicolas, and Dr. Sherleen Osman. They were scored on a scale of 1 to 10 based on their

presentation of theme, degree of difficulty, tenderness/texture, and of course taste.

The *Saipan Tribune* got the chance to talk to Guam's Good Guy Ken Stuart after the event and he described the presentation of all of the dishes as "busy"—taking into consideration the pressure and amount of time each of the chefs had.

"We were all given small plates and small plates make it look really crowded," he added.

Stuart, however, said that once he and the other judges tasted the food—the personality, flavor, profile, and taste all compensated for the busy work.

"She was exceptionally good," he said about Backe. "I want to go to her home and eat. Her presentation was interesting."

The judges knew nothing about the chefs and where they worked at before the competition.

Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation founder Rose Smith explained that the funds raised at the cooking competition and through the raffle they had that afternoon will go toward their continued efforts in providing clothes, supplies, and other basic needs to women and children on Saipan, Kenya, Bangladesh, and the Philippines.

Vicky Benevente, PIC executive assistant, who is also a volunteer of Empty Vessel Ministry, said that there was a demand for more entrees but they simply did not have enough space.

Benevente shared that the cooking competition definitely

goes beyond the food and kitchen.

"The significance of this event is that it is also a fundraiser. The funds are going to help families."

According to Benevente each of the contestant's recipes will be published in a cookbook that the Empty Vessel Ministry foundation will be selling later this year.

The Empty Vessel Ministry foundation was founded by Smith and brought to Saipan back in 2005. Events like this is a part of a long list of fundraisers that assist kids all over the globe.

To learn more about the non-profit organization or how to be part of their movement visit www.emptyvesselministry.org.



NOTICE OF MEETING NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE BOARD OF REGENTS' REGULAR MEETING

Date: Friday, December 06, 2013
Time: 1:00p.m.
Place: BOR Conference Room
Saipan Campus

AGENDA

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER (1:00p.m – 1:10p.m.)**
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Review and Adoption of Agenda
 - c. Review and Adoption of Minutes
 1. October 14, 2013 and Continued October 15, 2013 – Regular Meeting (Action Item)
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** Individuals may orally testify on items on this agenda during the Public Comment Period. Written testimony is also accepted. Testifiers are requested to limit their testimony to five (5) minutes. **(1:10p.m – 1:20p.m)**
- III. ELECTION OF BOR OFFICERS**
- IV. REPORTS AND ACTION FROM STANDING COMMITTEES (1:20p.m – 2:20p.m)**
 - a. Program Committee
 1. Board Policies for Review and Consideration
 - i. Board Policy No. 2003 – Institutional Values
 - b. Personnel and Evaluation Committee
 - c. Fiscal and Finance Committee
 1. Board Policies for Review and Consideration
 - i. Board Policy No. 4001 – Residency Classification
 - d. Adhoc Committee
- V. NMC EXECUTIVE REPORTS (2:20p.m – 3:20p.m)**
 - a. NMC President's Report
 1. WASC Accreditation Update
 2. Spring Calendar 2014 – Special Projects
 3. Student Achievement Data Report
 4. Achieving Our College Completion Goals – The Federal /National Perspective and It's Impact on NMC Report
- VI. BOARD MEETING ASSESSMENT (3:20p.m – 3:30p.m)**
 1. BOR Calendar
- VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (3:30p.m – 4:30p.m)**
- VIII. BOARD PLANNING SESSION (4:30p.m – 5:00p.m)**
 - a. UPCOMING BOARD ACTIVITIES
 1. Schedule Next Regular Meeting
 2. December /January Meeting Agenda items
 3. Retreat with Dr. Narcisa Polonio – December 16 & 17, 2013

/s/ Elaine Hocog Orilla
Acting BOR Chairperson

Date: November 29, 2013



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950

Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND COMMUTER TERMINAL JANITORIAL SERVICES

PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-002-14 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for Janitorial Services for the Saipan International Airport and Commuter Terminal Non-Restricted Areas.

A CD-ROM containing the scope of work and other considerations of the proposal is available beginning November 8, 2013 from 0800 hours a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport upon the payment of ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00). This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Interested proposers must submit one original and three copies of the sealed proposal. The sealed proposals must be submitted before 4:30 p.m., December 13, 2013, to the Office of the Executive Director on the aforementioned location.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Office of the Secretary

Caller Box 10007

Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

Tel. (670) 664-2587 • Fax. (670) 664-2547

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Division of Historic Preservation Office under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs hereby give notice that a regular meeting of the Historic Preservation Review Board will be held on December 4, 2013 at 10:00 am and on December 5, 2013 at 9:00 am on the island of Tinian, Office of the Mayor Conference Room.

The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. REPORTS**
 1. Secretary's Report
 2. Field Reports (Saipan/Tinian/Rota)
 3. Legal Counsel's Report – Public Law 3-39 Amendments
- IV. OLD BUSINESS**
 1. Regional Archaeologist (Fr. Hezel) Position
 2. Historian Position
 3. Section 106 Trainings
 4. Latte Stone Relocation Request (Mayor of Rota)
 5. Divert 106 Correspondence
 6. Published and Unpublished Reports (Requested by Dr. Rechebei)
 7. Budget 2010, 2011, 2012
 8. Discussion of Signage/Fencing on Established Historical Sites (Rota Water Cave)
 9. Projects as per Fr. Fran Hezel (Publication, Filming/PBS)
 10. Policy and Procedures / Bylaws (NPS, HPO)
- V. NEW BUSINESS**
- VI. OTHER MATTERS**
- VII. ADJOURNMENT**

/s/ Tom Glenn A. Quitugua
Chairman of the Board

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands TINIAN MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP BOARD

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan

P.O. Box 520059

Tinian, MP 96952

Tel: (670) 433-2200 • Fax: (670) 433-1819

Email: tinianscholarship@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Meeting on Tuesday, December 03, 2013 at 9 a.m. at the Mayor's Conference Room, 1st floor, in San Jose Village, Tinian.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY**
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS¹**
- III. EXECUTIVE SESSION²**
- IV. NEW BUSINESS**
 1. Annual Report 2012-2013
 2. Election of Officers
- V. MISCELLANEOUS MATTER**
- VI. ADJOURNMENT**

/s/ LYDIA F. BARCINAS
Chairwoman

¹ We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments on the day of the meeting

² Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

³ Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hour prior to schedule meeting for assistance.

World

Scottish holiday marred by police helicopter crash

GLASGOW, Scotland (AP)—Scotland's official holiday was transformed into a grim day of mourning Saturday as emergency crews searched the wreckage of a riverside pub smashed by a falling police helicopter. At least eight people died and more than a dozen remained hospitalized with serious injuries.

The Clutha, a popular Glasgow pub, was filled with revelers enjoying a local ska band on Friday night, the eve of St. Andrew's Day, named for the patron saint of Scotland and which is normally a celebration of Scottish culture and heritage.

Instead, Scotland's leader ordered flags at government buildings to be lowered to half-staff after the tragedy.

"This is a black day for Glasgow and Scotland, but it's also St. Andrew's Day, and it's a day we can take pride and courage in how we respond to adversity and tragedy," Scottish First Minister Alex Salmond said.

There may be more bad news. Police said a rescue and recovery operation is ongoing



Scottish Fire and Rescue services look at the exposed part of the helicopter tail fin and rotor at the scene on Saturday, Nov. 30, 2013, following the helicopter crash at the Clutha Bar in Glasgow, Scotland.

They "were our colleagues," House said, bowing his head and taking a long pause and swallow.

He said the five other fatalities were found inside the building and that 14 people remained hospitalized with serious injuries.

House wouldn't say if more people are believed to be inside the severely damaged pub. He said the helicopter is still "dominating the whole space" in the one-story building and that police won't know the situation until the wreckage is cleared away.

It wasn't immediately clear what the helicopter was doing in the area prior to the crash. Police and air safety investigators say it's too early to speculate on why the Eurocopter EC135 T2 helicopter came down on the pub's roof, close to a helipad on the bank of the River Clyde.

Police said the scene was extremely dangerous because the building was unstable.

"We are dealing with a very sensitive investigation and operation here," House said. "It will go on for many days yet."

The Clutha pub was packed at the time. Police said there were well over 100 people inside the bar at the time of the crash, listening to the tunes of local ska band Esperanza.

With the scene cordoned off, groups of people huddled around police tape Saturday, some visibly upset and crying. A blue tarpaulin had been spread on the roof of the pub, but for much of the day the shapes of the blades and mangled fuselage were clearly visible from the street.

John McGarrigle, 38, said that he believed his 59-year-old father, also named John, had died in the crash.

UN set to appeal for more aid to PH

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The United Nations said Friday it will seek more funds for a reconstruction of areas in the central Philippines that were devastated by a super typhoon, in addition to \$348 million that U.N. agencies had sought for immediate relief.

Only about a half of the initial U.N. appeal has been received since Typhoon Haiyan plowed through the country on Nov. 8, killing nearly 5,600 people and leaving 1,700 missing and more than 3.8 million displaced. More than 1.1 million houses have been damaged or destroyed.

Orla Fagan of the U.N. Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Manila did not say how much of the

additional funds will be needed for the yearlong reconstruction, but that it would entail a massive effort.

"You are talking about an area that's the size of a European country with the population that's the size of a European country," she said.

"How much money do you think we will need to get these people back on the feet again, to get them at the state in their life that they can support themselves and where they are less vulnerable to things like this typhoon? That's what we are aiming for," she said.

Simon Hills, a disaster response officer of the International Labor Organization, said that 5.6 million workers have lost their livelihoods,

including 2.4 million who already were among the very poor before the typhoon hit.

Hills said that 51 percent of those who lost their jobs were in the service sector, many of them in the tourism industry. About a third were farmers whose lands were submerged in tsunami-like storm surges that wiped out entire villages, and fishermen whose boats were battered and washed away, he said.

He said that the government's emergency employment scheme was targeting 20,000 workers on Leyte island, one of the hardest-hit by the typhoon. Unskilled workers will be trained as masons, carpenters and plumbers to help rebuild their communities.

and that it wasn't clear what will be found once the aircraft's wreckage is removed. The process may take days.

That means more waiting for people who don't know if their loved ones were in The Clutha at the fateful moment when the helicopter fell from the sky, directly hitting the riverside drinking establishment.

Witnesses said it seemed to fall straight down into the roof of the pub. The crash Friday at around 10:30 p.m. sent dozens of patrons fleeing through a cloud of dust. Witnesses spoke of people streaming out of the building covered in blood, with gashes and other injuries.

Ambulances rushed to the scene, taking the injured to

nearby hospitals.

Local resident Paul Dundas, 26, said he heard a loud bang and looked out of his window to see a plume of dust rising above the pub.

"At first I thought it was a fireworks," he said.

"People were covered in blood and dust. Other people were dragging them away from the bar and trying to get them out. Everyone was in shock, but people were helping and asking strangers if they were OK. I saw a couple help each other clean up their faces."

Chief Constable Stephen House said three of the dead were found in the helicopter, which was carrying two police officers and a civilian pilot.

WORLD BRIEFS

US to destroy Syrian chemical weapons

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—Syria's government will try to move the most lethal components of its chemical weapons program to a port city by the end of the year, and the U.S. has offered to pick up and destroy the hazardous material at an offshore facility, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and Syrian officials said Saturday. The international organization's director-general, Ahmet Uzumcu, said in The Hague, Netherlands, that the U.S. government will contribute "a destruction technology, full operational support and financing to neutralize" the weapons—most likely on a ship in the Mediterranean Sea. The weapons are to be removed from Syria by Dec. 31.

33 dead in Mozambican plane crash in Namibia

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—A Mozambique Airlines plane carrying 33 people crashed in a remote border area in Namibia, killing all on board, officials said Saturday. The plane crashed in a Namibian national park near the border with Angola and there were no survivors,

Namibian police and Mozambican authorities said. An investigation of the cause was underway, and teams of experts headed to the scene. The Brazilian-made Embraer 190 aircraft was carrying 27 passengers, including 10 Mozambicans, nine Angolans, five Portuguese, and one citizen each from France, Brazil and China, said the airline. Six crew members, including two pilots, three flight attendants and a maintenance technician, were on board.

Strong earthquake hits Indonesia; no casualties

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—A strong, shallow earthquake rocked parts of eastern Indonesia early Sunday, but there were no immediate reports of damage or injuries. The U.S. Geological Survey said the 6.3-magnitude quake was centered 343 kilometers (212) miles northwest of Saumlaki, a coastal town in Maluku province, at a depth of 9 kilometers (5.5 miles) beneath the sea. Indonesia's Meteorology, Earthquake and Geophysics Agency put its preliminary magnitude at 6.7 and said that the quake was unlikely to trigger a tsunami, said Suhardjono, the agency official who like many Indonesians uses a single name.

Police fire tear gas at protesters in Bangkok

BANGKOK (AP)—Riot police fired tear gas at protesters trying to force their way into the prime minister's office compound and Bangkok's police headquarters on Sunday.

Reporters saw anti-government protesters trying to rip down concrete barriers outside the Government House on Sunday. Police fired tear gas and water cannons to push them back.

Separately, police drove back another crowd of protesters at the Bangkok police headquarters.

This was the first time police have used force against protesters who have occupied government offices for the past week in

a bid to topple Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra.

Tensions began to rise Saturday night after pro- and -anti-government groups clashed in a northeastern Bangkok neighborhood and unidentified gunmen shot and killed two people. At least 45 people were injured during the clashes.

The protesters who mainly support the opposition Democrat Party accuse Yingluck's government of serving the interests of her brother, former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who was ousted by a 2006 military coup after being accused of corruption and abuse of power.

The violence has stirred fears of further instability like what plagued the country during related political conflicts in 2006, 2008 and 2010. In 2008, anti-Thaksin demonstrators occupied Bangkok's two airports for a week after taking over the prime minister's office for three months.

Any escalation is likely to scare away tourists who come to Thailand by the millions and contribute a huge chunk to the economy. But it may help the government by undermining the claims of its opponents to be carrying out a nonviolent campaign of civil disobedience.

Life & Style

Publicist: 'Fast & Furious' star dies in car crash

By DAISY NGUYEN and
JAKE COYLE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Paul Walker, the star of the "Fast & Furious" movie series, died Saturday in a car crash that killed one other person north of Los Angeles, his publicist said. He was 40.

Walker died Saturday afternoon, Ame Van Iden told The Associated Press.

A statement on the actor's Facebook page said he was a passenger in a friend's car, and that Walker was in the area to attend a charity event for his organization Reach Out Worldwide.

"We ... are stunned and saddened beyond belief by this news," the statement said.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said that deputies found a car engulfed in flames when they responded to a report of a collision in the community of Valencia. Two people who were found in the car were pronounced dead at

the scene.

The Santa Clarita Signal reports a red Porsche crashed into a light pole and tree and burst into flames.

Walker was working on "Fast & Furious 7" at the time of his death. He also starred in the suspense drama, "Hours," which is set for release this month.

Walker rode the "Fast & Furious" franchise to stardom, starring in all but one of the six action blockbusters, beginning with the first film in 2001. The blond-haired, blue-eyed Los Angeles-native brought California surfer good-looks and an easy, warm charm to the popular street-racing series.

"All of us at Universal are heartbroken," Universal Pictures said in a statement. "Paul was truly one of the most beloved and respected members of our studio family for 14 years, and this loss is devastating to us, to everyone involved with the 'Fast and Furious' films, and to countless fans."

The son of a fashion model and a sewer contractor, Walker



AP
This March 21, 2013 file photo shows actor Paul Walker wearing a creation from the Colcci summer collection at Sao Paulo Fashion Week in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

grew up in a working class, Mormon Los Angeles household. The oldest of five siblings, Walker's mother began taking

him to auditions as a toddler. He was a child model beginning at the age of 2.

Walker has said the early induction to show business wasn't to start him on a career path, but as a way to help provide for the family.

After a string of TV roles as a child in the '80s, Walker made his feature film debut in the 1998 comedy "Meet the Deedles." Supporting roles in the films "Pleasantville," "Varsity Blues" and "She's All That" followed.

His performance in the 2000 thriller "The Skulls" caught the eye of producer Neal H. Moritz, who cast him in "The Fast and the Furious" as undercover police officer Brian O'Conner. Adapted from a Vibe magazine article about underground street races, the film became an unexpected hit.

NJ canine crowned world's ugliest dog in 2007 dies

SEWELL, N.J. (AP)—A New Jersey canine that was crowned the world's ugliest dog in 2007 and later became the topic of a children's book preaching acceptance has died. Elwood was 8.

His owner, Karen Quigley, says the Chinese crested and Chihuahua mix died unexpectedly Thanksgiving morning. The Sewell resident said Elwood had been dealing with some health issues in recent months but appeared to be doing well.

Elwood was dark colored and hairless—save for a puff of white fur resembling a Mohawk on his head. He was often referred to by fans as Yoda, or E.T., for his resemblance to those famous science-fiction characters.

Elwood won his crown at the annual ugly dog contest at the Sonoma-Marina County Fair in California a year after he had finished second.

Quigley had rescued Elwood

in 2005, when he was about nine months old.

"The breeder was going to euthanize him because she thought he was too ugly to sell," Quigley has said.

After garnering the ugly dog title, Elwood became an online darling and developed a worldwide fan base. During his life, he appeared at more than 200 events that helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for animal rescue groups and non-profit animal organizations.

Inspired by her pet, Quigley wrote "Everyone Loves Elwood," a popular children's book that promoted a message that it's OK to be different. Quigley said the book shares lessons of love, compassion and perseverance and encourages readers to be kind to animals.

"He made people smile, he made them laugh and feel good. It was wonderful," Quigley said Saturday. "He will truly be missed."



AP
In a Friday, June 22, 2007 file photo, the Chinese Crested and Chihuahua mix dog "Elwood" won the title of World's ugliest dog of 2007 at the 2007 World's Ugliest Dog Contest, in Petaluma, Calif.

Compassionate friends help parents cope with their loss

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DEAR ABBY: My little girl was born with a heart defect. She made it through the first heart surgery, but passed away a week later right in front of me while the doctors and nurses tried to save her.

As the date of her death gets closer, I am becoming more and more depressed. How can I remember her and share my memories in a good way when all I want to do is stay in bed and cry?

HEARTBROKEN MOMMY IN NORTH CAROLINA

Dear Abby

DEAR MOMMY: I am so sorry for your loss. A way to remember your little girl and share those memories would be to contact a group called The Compassionate Friends. It's a national self-help support organization for families grieving the death of a child and was started to help families cope with the loss of children of any age and from any cause.

It sponsors a worldwide candle lighting on the second Sunday of December each year. The event is held at 7 p.m. local time and lasts for one hour. Services are also held throughout the day in hundreds of locations in all 50 states and Washington, D.C., as well as in other countries around the world. You can post a memorial message for your daughter in the online memorial book.

To locate a service near you and learn more about the work this organization does and what it offers, visit www.compassionatefriends.org, or call toll-free 877-969-0010. This is a valuable resource for anyone who has lost a child.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I recently went on a business trip that required me to share meals with my co-workers. I became the target of criticism from them over my eating habits because I like to eat my dessert first. It doesn't keep me from eating the rest of the meal; I just do it in a different order than most people.

When the subject came up, I tried to explain that because I wasn't allowed to do it as a child, I swore that when I was an adult, I'd eat my food in any order I wanted. But lately, it has failed to diffuse the tension.

I don't think I'm being rude. I do this only at restaurants where it's possible to order dessert at the same time as the meal. I'd never do it when I'm a guest in someone's home.

Do you think I'm being rude? Should I eat in a more conventional way to avoid flak from people I'm dining with?

SWEET TOOTH IN COLORADO

DEAR SWEET TOOTH: I'm not your mother, so I'll refrain from lecturing you about the empty calories you consume, which reduce your appetite for the healthy food you "should" be eating at mealtime. And yes, I do think what you're doing is rude because it is obviously making your eating companions uncomfortable, or you wouldn't be getting flak along with your dessert.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: After 31 years of marriage, my wife and I have split up. We love each other, but after the kids moved out we realized we have little in common.

What is an appropriate Christmas gift for an ex-wife? We are on friendly terms and will probably spend the holidays together with our children. I don't want to give a gift that will offend or encourage her.

FREE MAN IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR FREE MAN: How about a gift card from her favorite store, or a lovely scarf or colorful shawl, or if she has a hobby, something to do with it? None of them would send the wrong message.

■ ■ ■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■ ■ ■

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Usher's ex-wife holds 5K run to honor son who died



AP
In this Sept. 25, 2007 file photo, Grammy award winner Usher Raymond and wife his Tameka Foster mingle at a party for the unveiling of Usher's new fragrances, Usher for Men and Usher for Women, in New York.

ATLANTA (AP)—It's been more than a year since the son of Usher's ex-wife Tameka Raymond died in a boating accident on a Georgia lake.

Raymond is working to keep the memory of son Kile Glover alive, honoring him with the first Give Thanks 5K run/walk Saturday morning at Chastain Park in Atlanta. She wants to raise money for the Kile's World Foundation's art initiatives and upcoming camps.

"I know when I'll be running, I will be thinking of him," Raymond said of her son, who was run over by a personal watercraft on Lake Lanier, northeast of Atlanta, last year. The 11-year-old boy died two weeks after being critically injured in the accident.

"I'm thinking about him every day, but he was my running buddy," she continued. "That's

who I used to do my neighborhood jogs with all the time. He would be the only one who would be like, 'Let's go, mom'. He kept me going."

Raymond said Usher will be unable to attend the event because he's out of the country filming the movie, "Hands of Stone." The Grammy-winning pop star is playing the role of Sugar Ray Leonard in a film based on boxing great Roberto Duran.

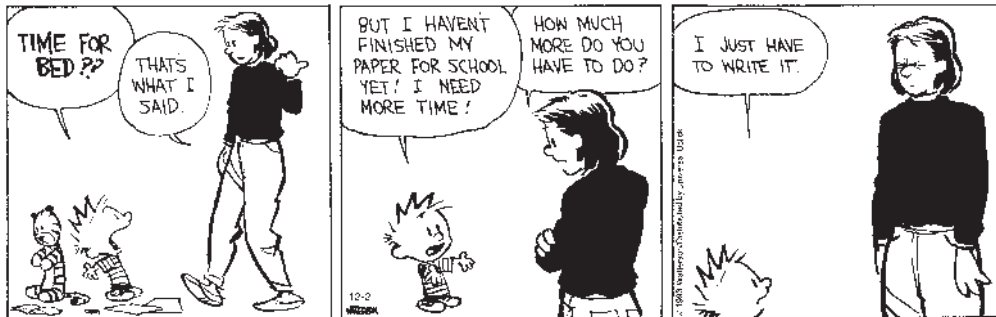
"It's safe to assume that he's supportive in my efforts," she said. "He loves Kile. I think he's supportive."

Raymond said many celebrity trainers will be in attendance, along with cast members from TV One's "R&B Divas: Atlanta," Lil Wayne's ex-wife Antonia "Toya" Carter and Cynthia Bailey from "The Real Housewives of Atlanta."

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

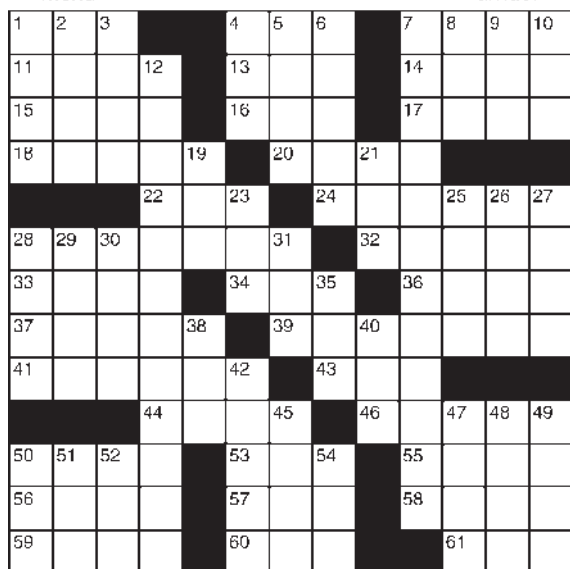
By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Palin-dromic woman's name
- 4 Paintings, e.g.
- 7 Imperfection
- 11 Hearty laugh
- 13 Scatter seed
- 14 Swear word
- 15 Franc replacement
- 16 Weeding tool
- 17 Follow orders
- 18 Salivate
- 20 Fender bender
- 22 2012 movie about a stuffed bear
- 24 Mortar-board adornment
- 28 Rink-cleaning machine
- 32 Chicken, on a Mexican menu
- 33 Operatic solo
- 34 High card
- 36 Bread quantity
- 37 Sea birds
- 39 Obvious
- 41 Odors
- 43 Inventor Whitney
- 44 Workout venues
- 46 Entered, as data
- 50 Former larva
- 53 Charged particle
- 55 Exceptional
- 56 Neaten
- 57 "Comin' Thro' the —"
- 58 Unkempt person
- 59 Initial stake
- 60 "Krazy —"
- 61 Superlative suffix
- DOWN**
- 1 Sleeping
- 2 Gloomy
- 3 Frizzy coiffure
- 4 Blond shade
- 5 Crucifix
- 6 140-character message
- 7 Infantry
- 8 "Breaking Bad"
- 9 Consumed
- 10 "How come?"
- 12 Super Bowl, e.g.
- 19 Zodiac sign
- 21 Siesta
- 23 "NCIS" evidence
- 25 — gin fizz
- 26 Verve
- 27 Room at the top?
- 28 Sudden sharp turns
- 29 Calla lily, for one
- 30 Marathon fraction
- 31 "Rocks"
- 35 Leading lady?
- 38 Crafty
- 40 Sort
- 42 Smug look
- 45 Tofu source
- 47 Harvard rival
- 48 Cupid's alias
- 49 College loan aftermath
- 50 Sch. org.
- 51 Grecian vessel
- 52 Hole
- 54 Court divider

Solution time: 27 mins.



Friday's answer 11-25



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Britney Spears, 32; Nelly Furtado, 35; Rena Sofer, 45; Lucy Liu, 45.

Happy Birthday: Inconsistency is holding you back from having a great year. Your ideas are good and solutions can be found if you are steadfast and willing to make a decision. Plan your strategy and execute what you want to see happen. Don't let uncertainty be your downfall. The coast is clear—it's you who is putting up barriers. Your numbers are 2, 8, 19, 28, 35, 41, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't slouch; get things moving. Make whatever changes are necessary to turn your plans into a successful venture. Multitask until you have everything in place and you will make a great impression on someone with clout. Negotiate and sign contracts. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't sit idly by; make a decision. You are in a high cycle where partnerships, education and work-related matters are concerned. Plan a trip that will be educational, inspirational or bring you closer to your roots. Embrace romance. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Show a little compassion when dealing with partners or people who need your help. Bring emotional issues out into the open and you will find a solution that will encourage the type of change required to move on or fix what isn't working. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Lay your cards on the table. Once you make your point, you will realize you have the sup-

port to move forward. Love will not be a waste of time. Share your feelings and your intentions. Live, love and laugh. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Embrace challenges and refuse to give in to demands. Plan activities that bring you joy. Avoid negative people and focus on those who are supportive and helpful. Network, and you will encounter a positive change in your direction. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take time out to chill. Think about your current position and what needs to be done to make your personal life better. Speak up about your needs and you will find a way to follow your heart. Love conquers all. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take on a challenge and let your imagination lead you to victory. Action will be necessary if you want to fix a personal problem. Change is upon you, so don't procrastinate. Make a choice yourself; don't have one forced on you. ★★★★★

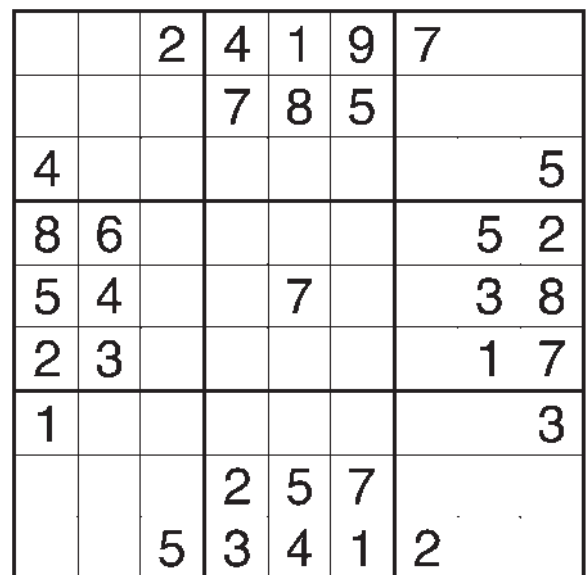
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get together with friends and share your thoughts, ideas and plans for the future. Travel or educational pursuits should be met with enthusiasm. The more you do to develop and expand your knowledge and interests, the greater your options will become. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep your emotions under control. Don't act on assumptions that aren't likely to hold much merit. Dig deep and find out exactly what happened before you engage in a debate that can make you look bad or uninformed. ★★★★★

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



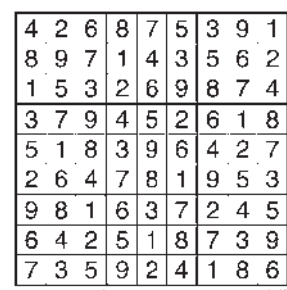
Difficulty Level ★

12/02

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Listen carefully to what others say and ask for. Changes may sound well thought out, but if you act too fast, you are likely to discover a flaw that will end up being costly. Reserve the right to research before getting involved. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your emotions will be difficult to control. Make sure you are getting all the facts before you make a move that will be difficult to reverse. Not everyone will be on your side. Keep a close eye on how others react. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Let your intuition guide you and your actions speak for you. Your profile will protect your image. Get the facts before you share information that may be questionable. Reliability and consistency will make a difference. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, intelligent, charming and accomplished. You are industrious and strong.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

OLYMPIC GAME HOSTS

Solution: 11 letters



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12/2
America, Amsterdam, Asia, Athens, Austria, Barcelona, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chamonix, China, Game, Germany, Greece, Helsinki, Italy, Japan, Korea, Lillehammer, London, Melbourne, Mexico, Nagano, North, Oslo, Paris, Rank, Rio, Rome, Russia, Sapporo, Seoul, Sochi, South, Spain, Stockholm, Sydney, Tokyo, Turin, United Kingdom, Vancouver
Last Friday's Answer: Internet
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Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Bucks beat Celtics to end 11-game skid

MILWAUKEE (AP)—O.J. Mayo rebounded from a subpar game with 22 points and the Milwaukee Bucks snapped an 11-game losing streak with a 92-85 victory over the Boston Celtics on Saturday night.

Two of Milwaukee's three victories this season have come against Boston. The Bucks beat the Celtics, 105-98, on Nov. 1 in Boston.

Jared Sullinger scored 21 points and had 14 rebounds, while Jeff Green and Jordan Crawford added 18 points apiece for the Celtics.

Milwaukee's Brandon Knight had his second consecutive solid game, scoring 20 points with nine rebounds and eight assists after scoring 17 points against Charlotte.

Boston missed its first nine shots of the fourth quarter, allowing Milwaukee to go on a 10-0 run and take an 80-63 lead on Gary Neal's short jumper with 7:24 to go.

The Celtics then went on an 18-5 run, pulling within 88-81 on Green's 3-pointer with 1:20 to go. After each team failed to score on their next possessions, Knight made a layup to make it 90-81 with 55 seconds to go.

Mayo scored only five points on 2-of-11 shooting in the Bucks' 92-76 loss Friday night at Charlotte, but shot 9 of 14 Saturday to give Milwaukee its first win since beating Cleveland 109-104 on Nov. 6.

John Henson had a season-high 13 points and 13 rebounds for Milwaukee.

Mayo had eight points in the third quarter and the Bucks led 70-63 heading to the fourth.

Knight made all five of his shots, including two 3-pointers, to score 12 points in the second quarter, helping Milwaukee to a 47-41 halftime lead. The Bucks took the lead for good at 44-41 on Knight's 3-pointer with 1:42 left in the half.

Rockets 111, Spurs 102

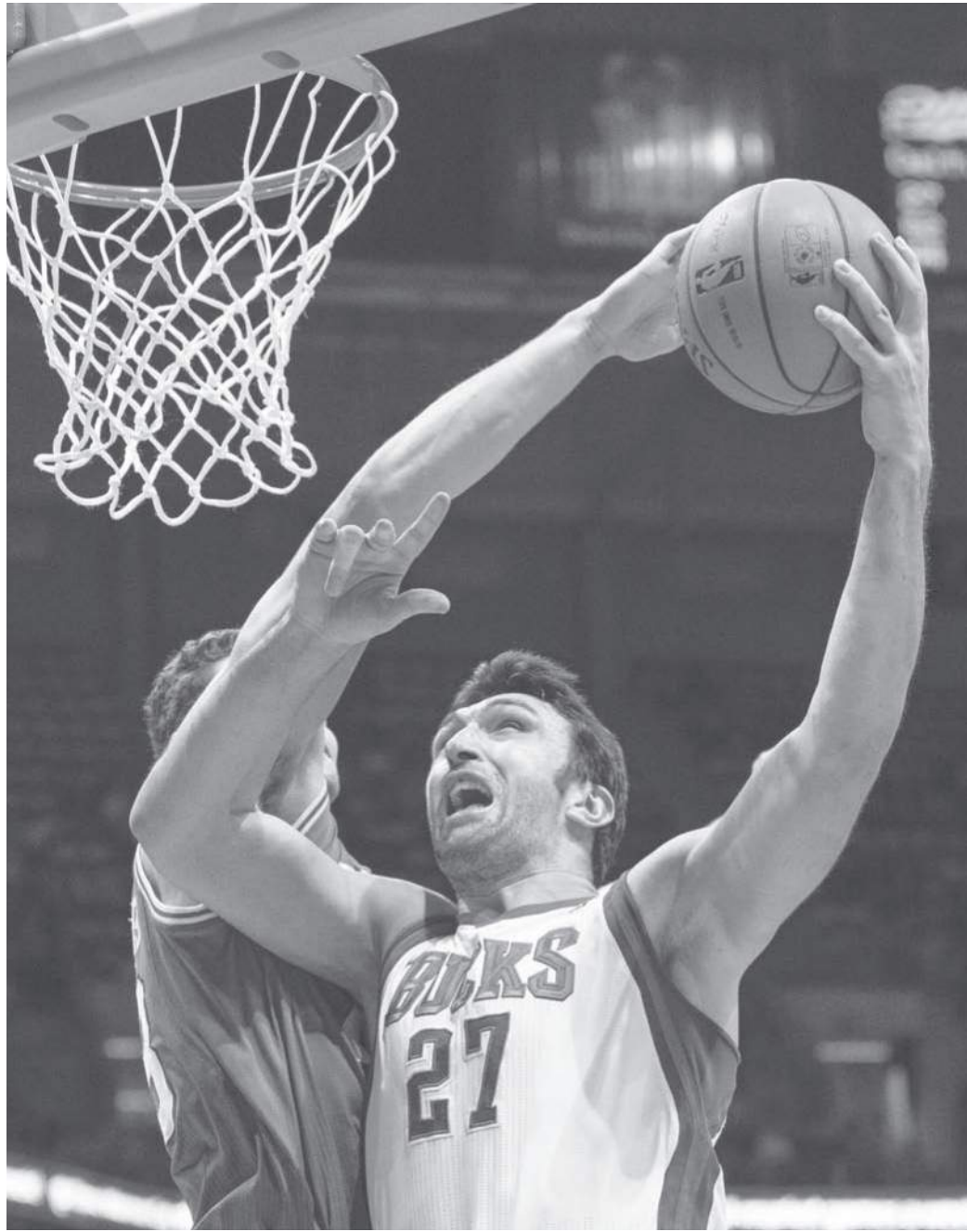
In San Antonio, James Harden scored 31 points, Chandler Parsons had 25, and the Houston Rockets overcame a furious second-half rally to beat San Antonio 112-106 on Saturday night, handing the Spurs their first home defeat.

Dwight Howard had 13 points and 11 rebounds, Terrence Jones added 10 points and 16 boards, and Patrick Beverly had 11 points for Houston (13-5).

Tony Parker had 27 points, Tim Duncan added 20 and Marco Belinelli scored 18 for San Antonio (14-3), which has lost two of three.

San Antonio outscored Houston 39-26 to open the second half, with Belinelli scoring 13 points after halftime to set up a furious finish.

Harden's off-balance 3-pointer tied the game at 106 with 45 seconds left. Parker missed a driving layup over Howard,



Milwaukee Bucks' Zaza Pachulia shoots over Boston Celtics' Kris Humphries during the second half of an NBA basketball game Saturday, Nov. 30, 2013, in Milwaukee.

and Beverly tipped in Harden's miss to put Houston up 108-106 with 31 seconds remaining. Manu Ginobili missed a 3-pointer, enabling Houston to outlet to Parsons for a dunk and a 110-106 lead with 16 seconds left.

Houston responded to a late first-half spurt by San Antonio by opening the second half on a 13-2 run that Parsons and Harden opened and closed with 3-pointers.

The run appeared to fire up Duncan, who scored seven of the Spurs' 13 points in one stretch, including an alley-oop-dunk in front of Howard. The Spurs were energized by their stoic leader showing some fire, closing within 81-80 with 2 minutes left in the third quarter.

Belinelli hit consecutive 3s to give San Antonio an 85-83 lead early in the final quarter, its first since going up 12-11 with 6:34 left in the first. He added another 3 to give the Spurs an 88-83 advantage.

Harden was shaken up after running into Danny Green's chest while attempting to create space. Harden fell to the ground, allowing Green to score an uncontested dunk with no foul assessed. Harden remained on the floor for a few seconds before getting up, grimacing and

then slamming his palm into the scorer's table in anger on the non-call.

Timberwolves 112, Mavericks 106

In Dallas, Luc Mbah a Moute figured things out in a hurry with Minnesota. Kevin Martin and Kevin Love paced the Timberwolves like they do so often.

Martin had 27 points with some key baskets down the stretch, Love had his usual double-double, and the Timberwolves snapped a three-game losing streak with a 112-106 victory Saturday night over the suddenly slipping Dallas Mavericks.

"We found (Martin). They lost sight of him a couple times, and he ended up knocking down the big 3s," coach Rick Adelman said. "That just turned the whole game."

Martin made two free throws with just under 6 minutes left to put Minnesota up 94-90. Ricky Rubio then had a steal that led to a long fast-break jumper by Martin, who later beat the shot clock with a jumper and then added a 3-pointer. That stretched the lead to 103-92, matching the Wolves' largest, with 3:12 left.

Love, who finished with 21 points and 11 rebounds, also had a buzzer-beating shot. His

3-pointer with just under 2 minutes left made it 106-95, effectively ending any comeback bid for the Mavericks, who lost for the second night in a row and the fourth time in five games.

"We made them take tough shots, and we live with the results," Martin said, crediting the defense more than his scoring.

Mbah a Moute, acquired Tuesday from Sacramento for former No. 2 overall pick Derrick Williams, made his Minnesota debut after going through just one shootaround session with his new team. He played 26 minutes with four points, seven rebounds and two blocked shots.

"He looked good. A little rusty, but the more he plays, the more he gets in tune with what we're going to, the better he's going to be for us," Love said. "He's going to be very good for us because he's so versatile."

Jazz 112, Suns 104

In Phoenix, rookie Trey Burke had the biggest game of his young NBA career, scoring 20 points to lead seven Utah players in double figures and the Jazz to their first road victory of the season, 112-104 over the Phoenix Suns on Saturday night.

Richard Jefferson added 15 for the Jazz, who were 0-9 on the road entering the contest and lost 112-101 at home to Phoenix on Friday night. Marvin Williams and Derrick Favors added 14 apiece.

Goran Dragic had 24 points and nine assists for the Suns. Channing Frye added 17 points for Phoenix.

Utah has won two of three but has just three victories in 18 games this season. Burke's previous high was 14 in the Jazz's overtime win over Chicago two games ago.

Burke, a first-round draft pick who was the college player of the year at Michigan, shot 4 of 6 on 3-pointers, making two in the final four minutes.

His last 3 put the Jazz up 105-97 with 1:13 to play.

Utah led by as many as nine points before the Suns finished the first half with a 12-1 run to lead 53-49 at the break.

The Jazz took the lead three minutes into the third quarter and held it the rest of the period, but never by more than four points.

Nets 97, Grizzlies 99

In Memphis, Joe Johnson scored 26 points, Brook Lopez added 12 of his 20 in the fourth quarter, and the Brooklyn Nets beat the Memphis Grizzlies 97-88 on Saturday night.

Andray Blatche scored 21 off the Nets bench, making all three shots from beyond the arc. Blatche entered the game 1 for 7 from 3-point range this season.

The Nets snapped a two-game losing streak and handed Memphis its fourth straight home loss.

Quincy Pondexter, who had not played in the Grizzlies' two previous games, scored a career-high 22 points. Mike Conley had 16 points and 10 assists, while Tony Allen had 13 points.

The Nets led by as many as 16 and withstood a fourth-quarter rally led by Pondexter that pulled Memphis within one.

Both teams played without key forwards. Paul Pierce sat out with a bruised hand for the Nets, and the Grizzlies were without Zach Randolph, who had surgery on an ingrown toenail earlier Saturday.

Not long after Memphis got within 75-74, Brooklyn began getting the ball deep in the post to Lopez, who worked over Grizzlies center Kosta Koufos. Lopez had 11 of the Nets' 13 points during the middle stages of the fourth.

The Nets used the offensive punch of Johnson and Blatche to carry a 48-37 lead into the break. Blatche was 4 of 7, including a pair of 3-pointers for 12 points, while Johnson led Brooklyn with 18 points, shooting 6 of 10 and missing

only one of his four shots from outside the arc.

Cavaliers 97, Bulls 93

In Cleveland, Andrew Bynum and Dion Waiters each scored 20 points, and the Cleveland Cavaliers held off a late rally by the Chicago Bulls for a 97-93 victory Saturday night.

Bynum, who said earlier in the season he was contemplating retirement as he attempts a comeback from surgery on both knees, had his best all-around game of the season. The 7-footer was 8 of 14 from the field, blocked five shots and had six rebounds.

Cleveland, which had lost five straight and eight of nine, built a 12-point lead in fourth quarter, but the Bulls rallied for an 88-87 edge on Tony Snell's basket with 3:59 remaining.

Bynum's jumper put Cleveland ahead again with 3:35 left, and Kyrie Irving scored after stealing the ball from Kirk Hinrich. Waiters converted another turnover into a layup to put the Cavaliers ahead 93-88 with 2:09 to play.

Waiters scored again to give Cleveland a seven-point lead, but Luol Deng's 3-pointer cut the lead to 95-91.

Carlos Boozer's basket with 40 seconds left cut the lead to 95-93. Following a miss by Bynum, the Bulls called timeout with 17 seconds remaining. Deng drove to the basket but his shot rolled off the rim and the Bulls missed three tip-in attempts.

Tristan Thompson grabbed the rebound and made two free throws with 9 seconds remaining sealed the win.

Wizards 108, Hawks 101

In Washington, John Wall had 26 points and 12 assists, Trevor Ariza scored 24 points and made five 3-pointers, and the Washington Wizards beat the Atlanta Hawks 108-101 on Saturday night.

The Wizards have won six of their last eight, and have won eight games in November for the first time since 1984.

Martell Webster added 19 points for Washington and also had five 3-pointers. Nene, who returned after missing Friday's game at Indiana with a right Achilles tendon injury, had 13 points and 12 rebounds.

Paul Millsap had 23 points and 10 rebounds for Atlanta, which cut an 18-point, third-quarter deficit to 81-79 with 9:42 left, but could not get closer.

Al Horford added 16 points and Jeff Teague had 15 for the Hawks.

Ariza scored eight points in the final 9:20 to help secure the win.

Atlanta came in as one of just three Eastern Conference teams with a winning record, but fell to 9-9.

Twins agree to terms with Nolasco

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—The Minnesota Twins entered the offseason with a desperate need for starting pitching, and they're off to a pretty great start in addressing it.

Right-hander Ricky Nolasco and the Twins agreed to terms on a free-agent contract Wednesday, a person with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press. The person requested anonymity because the team does not plan to announce a deal until Nolasco passes a physical.

Terms of the deal were not immediately available, but Yahoo! Sports reported that it was for four years and \$49 million. That's a hefty price for the Twins, who historically have been reluctant to hand out big-money deals to free agents. Prior to Nolasco's contract, the most the Twins had spent on a free agent who did not come through their system was the three-year, \$21 million deal they gave Josh Willingham in 2011.

But their need was acute and Nolasco was widely considered one of the top available free agents in a thin crop of starting pitchers. He's walked just 2.1 hitters per nine innings for his career, which makes him a perfect fit for the Twins, who have always placed a premium on control from their starters.

Pitching to contact has become a bit of a sore spot for Twins fans, who have watched their team's starting staff get bludgeoned while throwing strike after strike right down the middle. But Nolasco also has a healthy 7.4 strikeouts per nine innings, and he's shown the ability to get out of jams without letting the hitter put the ball in play.

Nolasco's Twitter account already has a Twins logo as its



Right-hander Ricky Nolasco and the Twins agreed to terms on a free-agent contract Wednesday, a person with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press.

avatar, and this beleaguered team will no doubt be just as eager to welcome him into the fold. Nolasco pitched at least 185 innings in five of the last six seasons and will immediately slot in right near the top of what was the worst pitching staff in the majors last year.

The Twins have lost at least 96 games in each of the last three seasons, thanks in most part to their woeful starting pitching. Last year the starters had an ERA of 5.26. Toronto was the next worse at 4.81. Only two of their starters had ERAs under 5.00, with Samuel Deduno's 3.83 leading the way and Kevin Correia's pedestrian 4.18

next.

The Twins have also inquired about veteran Bronson Arroyo among other available arms, and are expected to continue adding players to beef up the rotation. Matt Garza and Phil Hughes are among the other viable options, and the Twins also could bring back Mike Pelfrey for depth.

In San Francisco, right-hander Ryan Vogelsong is staying with the San Francisco Giants, agreeing to terms on a one-year contract Friday.

Assistant general manager Bobby Evans said the deal is pending a physical, expected to happen later next week.

The Giants declined to exer-

cise Vogelsong's \$6.5 million contract option for 2014 on Nov. 4, but the parties agreed to keep open the possibility of potential negotiations down the road during free agency. General manager Brian Sabean and Evans have been committed to keeping their pitching staff intact as best as possible, which they have done while also adding right-hander Tim Hudson on \$23 million, two-year contract Nov. 19.

The 36-year-old Vogelsong is determined to come back strong in 2014 following a frustrating year.

He went 4-6 with a 5.73 ERA in 19 starts and 103 2-3 innings during an injury-shortened season. He broke

two bones in the right pinkie area of his pitching hand and also dislocated a knuckle on a swing May 20 and underwent surgery the next day. He had five pins inserted in his hand.

Vogelsong won 13 and 14 games the previous two seasons. The journeyman pitcher became one of baseball's feel-good comeback stories in 2011, when he made the All-Star team after joining the Giants' rotation first as a fill in for the injured Barry Zito.

Vogelsong had toiled through three seasons in the Japanese League before Triple-A stints in 2010 for the Phillies and Angels. In the Bay Area with the team that originally drafted him in the fifth round in 1998, Vogelsong became a front-line starter at last.

Invited to spring training in 2011 on a minor league deal, he went on to win the team's "Willie Mac" Award - named for Hall of Famer Willie McCovey and is voted on by players, coaches and training staff for the most inspirational

Giants player on the field and in the clubhouse. Vogelsong set a career high for wins while going 13-7 with a 2.71 ERA in 30 games and 28 starts.

He then received an \$8.3 million, two-year contract in January 2012.

Vogelsong won three games during the 2012 postseason for the eventual World Series champion Giants, including one during a 4-0 sweep of the Tigers for the team's second championship in three years.

The Giants signed two-time NL Cy Young Award winner Tim Lincecum to a \$35 million, two-year contract last month. Lefty Madison Bumgarner and right-hander Matt Cain are signed to long-term deals along with catcher Buster Posey. In addition, right fielder Hunter Pence received a \$90 million, five-year contract before the season ended. He played every game this year.

Zito's tenure with the Giants ended when the club declined to exercise his \$18 million option for next year.

McIlroy wins Australian Open

SYDNEY (AP)—Rory McIlroy birdied the 18th hole to beat Adam Scott at the Australian Open on Sunday, winning for the first time in 2013 and denying Scott the rare Australian triple crown.

McIlroy started the last round four shots behind Scott but drew even when he eagled the seventh and birdied the eighth.

Scott went a shot ahead with a birdie at the ninth, then the pair went shot for shot over the back nine before the tournament's dramatic finish on the final hole.

Scott's approach shot went over the back of the green and his chip went well past the hole, with two putts bringing a bogey. McIlroy hit his approach to 10 feet and sank the putt to claim victory by a shot.

"I wanted to get a win and finally I've been able to get one," McIlroy said. "But more satisfying than that is being able to take one of the best players in the world down the stretch and come out on top."

"Adam is a phenomenal golfer, a great competitor and probably an even better guy and I feel a bit sorry that I was the one that ruined the triple crown for him."

Scott was attempting to become only the second player after compatriot Robert Allenby in 2005 to win Australia's triple crown by claiming the Australian Open, Masters and PGA titles in the same season.

He carried his form from the Masters and PGA tournaments into the Open, shattering the

course record with a 10-under-par 62 in his opening round.

He came into the final day at 16-under par, with rounds of 62, 70 and 68, four shots ahead of McIlroy, who was four clear of the next closest challenger.

That effectively made Sunday's final round a shootout between the No. 1-ranked Scott and Northern Ireland's McIlroy, who was the world's top-ranked player last year.

Scott was left to rue a series of missed birdie opportunities, failing to make six putts from within 12 feet during his final round.

Both players took irons from the tee on the last hole and landed their shots adjacent to each other on the fairway.

Scott's approach landed ahead of the hole but a cruel bounce sent the ball flying through the back of the green.

Rather than pitch and run back onto the green, Scott chose to give his chip some loft. It failed to pull up, rolling onto the lower tier of the green and the local favorite did well to salvage a bogey.

McIlroy stood assessing his 10 footer during Scott's troubles, and after Scott holed out, McIlroy rolled in a slow putt that just made it to the hole.

McIlroy finished with an 18-under-par tally of 270. Scott finished six shots ahead of Australian John Senden (11-under).

Senden and Australians Bryden MacPherson and Rhein Gibson, who tied for fourth at 9-under, all qualified for next year's British Open.

Ted Lilly retiring at 37 after 15 seasons

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Ted Lilly would have loved to keep pitching - if his body would allow him to start every fifth day, and if he could stay off the disabled list.

Instead, the 37-year-old left-hander is retiring after 15 seasons because of further problems with his shoulder and back.

He went to winter ball in Venezuela this month with the hope his body would cooperate and he could find a major league job. But Lilly didn't feel right, and he made just one three-inning appearance during a 20-day stint in Valencia. He would have pitched again except he got food poisoning.

"It came to a point that, unfortunately, the reality set in where I was in terms of health and effectiveness," Lilly said

by phone Friday. "Those combinations are what forced me to retire. If I felt I could still be productive and healthy, I would be playing, for sure. As of today, I don't think it's reasonable. I didn't believe I would be able to go out there and be productive and effective for a major league team and stay healthy to make 30 starts."

He returned home to California on Wednesday night, and looks forward to spending time with his wife and two young children.

A two-time All-Star, Lilly was 130-113 with a 4.14 ERA in parts of 15 major league seasons. He pitched for Montreal, Oakland, Toronto, the New York Yankees, Chicago Cubs and Dodgers.

He has struggled with the idea of retirement for months, even though his shoulder didn't

recover well. Designated for assignment by the Dodgers - the team that selected him in the 23rd round of the 1996 amateur draft - on July 25, Lilly first tried rest.

Late in the season, he saw a spine specialist in Los Angeles and underwent surgery to cauterize the nerve endings in the right side of his neck. He was limited to 13 starts the past two seasons for Los Angeles because of injury problems, going 0-2 with a 5.09 ERA in five 2013 starts.

"As I sit here right now I'm OK but it's been difficult for weeks because I've had to deal with those thoughts and avoid those thoughts for a long time, and continue to talk myself into it that I could find a way to do it," he said.

"I really do not want to spend more time on the disabled list.

I've spent so much time on that dreaded list. It really came down to a matter of being effective. If I believed could produce, I would still pitch. So, it was a decision that was forced on me at where I was physically in my career."

He expects to do coach down the line, probably at the youth baseball level initially.

Lilly is left to cherish the relationships and friendships he made with both teammates and opponents.

"I was so lucky, the game of baseball really changed my life," he said. "I know a lot of ex-players say that or people who are playing the game, and it's true. Baseball has been my life for so many years in some facet or the other I hope to continue to stay close to the game. It's a game that I love

Pacquiao leaves talking on tax issue to lawyer

GENERAL SANTOS CITY, Philippines—Boxing champ and Sarangani Representative Manny Pacquiao would rather keep his silence these days about the P2.2 billion tax deficiency case he is facing.

“I will no longer issue any statement,” he said Friday.

Pacquiao, who spoke to reporters on the eve of his eight-town relief caravan to Leyte and Samar, said has designated his lawyer to take ques-

tions related to the case filed against him by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

“Starting today, my legal counsel, Attorney Tranquilino Salvador III, will be the one to answer any questions from the media,” he said.

In leaving his lawyer to answer media queries on the tax case, Pacquiao said he wanted to focus on the relief operation, which he launched Saturday for the victims of Su-

pertyphoon Yolanda.

Pacquiao said the convoy of trucks bearing the relief goods left the city Friday evening. He was to fly to the typhoon-ravaged areas aboard a private plane on Saturday.

Aside from the P2.2-billion



Pacquiao

tax case, Pacquiao also faces a criminal complaint over his alleged non-payment of correct taxes, which was filed by the BIR’s Central Mindanao office in the Koronadal City Prosecutor’s Office.

The BIR regional office initially lost in the case, in which Pacquiao was accused of failure to submit his 2010 tax documents despite having been served several summonses, but it has filed an appeal.

Pacquiao was specifically

charged with violation of Section 266 of the National Internal Revenue Code, which prescribes the penalties for any person who would neglect summonses “to appear, to testify, or to appear and produce books of accounts, records, memoranda or other papers, or to furnish information as required under the pertinent provisions of this Code.”

Under this provision, violators, upon conviction, may be punished with a fine of not less than P5,000 but not more than P10,000 and imprisonment of not less than one year but not more than two years.

The BIR clarified it has not accused Pacquiao of tax evasion but only of non-submission of tax documents as required by the law.

In an eight-page resolution on October 12, 2012, Arnold D. Cruz, deputy city prosecutor and officer in charge of the City Prosecutor’s Office in Koronadal City, dismissed the case versus Pacquiao.

Cruz cited as primary basis in dismissing the case the failure of BIR regional office to personally serve the summons on Pacquiao.

“It would be absurd to hold

the respondent liable for neglecting to obey a subpoena which he did not receive at all, in the first place,” the resolution said.

Cruz added there was no refusal on the part of Pacquiao to receive the summons, hence, resorting to substituted service was irregular and ineffectual.

In the BIR’s motion for reconsideration filed in the later part of October last year, Eric Diesto, revenue legal division chief, assailed the prosecutor’s resolution for its failure to appreciate probable cause for violation of Sec. 266 of the revenue code.

Diesto explained in his motion for reconsideration that the BIR revenue officer failed to personally serve the subpoena on Pacquiao because he was hard to find. In addition, he claimed, the revenue officer was not allowed to enter the Pacquiao mansion at the time, and that all matters regarding BIR transactions were being handled by the boxer’s accountants.

The subpoena was served twice but Pacquiao was not around then and had left for Manila with no information as to when he would be back, Diesto said.

THREE

From Page 28

Unsa. Taisacan started the play sending the ball to Unsa to the right corner with the former dribbling forward and attracting Tan Holdings defenders. Tan Holdings bit to the bait, leaving Joyner momentarily free inside the penalty box and Unsa quickly recognized their foe’s defensive lapses and made a pass. Joyner then hit a cross and Tan Holdings’ Joshua Galarion, who was also fooled by Unsa’s decoy play moving toward the left post, was too late for the save when he slid back to his right side.

MP United hung on to the lead for a while before Sean Perez tied the match with a penalty shot. Perez made the penalty hit happened when he had a good kick a few feet away from mid-court and Michael Fidelino tried to receive it, but was held down by an MP United defender.

The eventful first half, which saw a lot of physical plays from

both camps, remained even, as Enrico Del Rosario had a big save in the closing minutes of that period. He made a header after Tan Holdings had a corner kick and the ball seemed to go down and over the hands of MP United goalie Chris Aninzo. Del Rosario snuck behind Aninzo and prevented the ball from dropping down using his head.

With the game tied and MP United forced to play short-handed in the second half, coach Del Rosario looked for players to fill the void left by Taisacan and Kim on the team’s offense. John Diego Masga and Unsa responded to the call, connecting on free kicks in the 55th and 59th minute.

The back-to-back goals off free kicks more than made up for an earlier bad break that MP United got in the 52nd minute. Unsa took a penalty shot seven minutes into the second half, but his connection was nullified after one of his teammates tried moving toward the box with the former had yet to make the kick.

League rules would have called for a re-take of the penalty shot, but the referee resumed play and awarded possession to Tan Holdings.

Despite the questionable decision, MP United continued to be aggressive on offense and was rewarded with its persistence. The lefty Masga positioned for a long free kick (between 30 and 40 yards and near the right midfield) after a handball call against Tan Holdings FC and hit a cross looper that went over the hands of Galarion.

Masga was mobbed by his teammates after the great shot and four minutes later, it was Unsa’s turn to celebrate his own free kick conversation. Unsa again tricked Tan Holdings’ defense, as he let his teammate cut through the passing lane first before going for a straight cross from the left center defense spot.

Caught flatfooted by MP United’s two straight free kicks, Tan Holdings was a bit disorganized in the remaining minutes

of the game, as it went on a defensive mode instead of attacking and capitalizing on their manpower advantage against its foe to overhaul the deficit. When Tan Holdings had possession, three and sometimes four of its players just hung around near midcourt and almost always allowed only Sean Perez to anchor the team’s offense. A worn-out Perez went down the field several times, as he tried to penetrate MP United’s defense.

Perez was later carried by his teammates on the court when he received his Golden Boot award, while MP United was awarded the perpetual trophy and its goalie Aninzo took the most saves trophy.

MP United and Tan Holdings arranged their title duel for the FA Challenge Cup after beating MP United U15 and Paire FC in the semis, respectively. In the consolation game, Paire edged MP United U15, 1-0, off Joel Fruit’s goal in the 16th minute of the extension.

Rebuyon and Bryan Manabat added 12 and 11, respectively.

Blue Haus 116 – Pangelinan 34, Diaz 21, Valencia 14, Rebuyon 12, Manabat 11, F. Palacios 6, Guiab 6, G. Palacios 4.

D&Q Degree 92 – Rabago 31, de la Torre 22, Drilon 10, Ocampo 9, Valdez 9, Tobias 5, Echavez 4.

Scoring by quarters: 27-18, 56-44, 92-65, 116-92.

Rebuyon top-scored in Island Manpower’s crucial win, posting 21 points.

First Game

Fong’s Bakery 69 – David 15, Barrios 10, Ajoste 8, Reyes 6, Jose 6, Corotan 6, Samson 4, Bautista 3.

Kixx Engine Oil 65 – Pangelinan 35, De Guzman 12, Ebuen 7, Patawaran 6, Tibayan 3.

Scoring by quarters: 14-26, 36-39, 62-57, 69-65.

Second Game

Island Manpower 90 – Rebuyon 21, Devero 18, Esconde 12, Esteves 8, Pacman 6, Gonzales 6, Capuyon Sr. 2.

Maplas 79 – Rivera 18, M. Usi 14, Devero 11, Lauron 10, Claveria 8, Mendoza 5, Anciete 4.

Scoring by quarters: 14-17, 36-37, 60-60, 90-79.

BLUE

From Page 28

kept the team afloat with his 10 points.

De la Torre was then held to one field goal in the second period, while Diaz and Pangelinan continued to make long shots, stretching Blue Haus’ advantage to 12 at halftime, 56-44.

Blue Haus then broke away

in the third as Pangelinan was still unstoppable, firing three more treys and Diaz and Valencia making one each to counter the four triples Mark Rabago converted. With only Rabago consistently hitting his outside shots against three Blue Haus’ shooters, the top-ranked squad built a 92-65 lead.

With the win already secured after the three periods,

Blue Haus played loose on defense, allowing Degree to outscore the former for the first time, 26-24. Rabago kept his hot shooting in the second half, earning five more triples. He finished with a team-high 31 points, three markers shy of Pangelinan’s game-high 34 points. Diaz chipped in 21, and three other Blue Haus players contributed twin digits. Valencia had 14, while Francis

alive, while eliminating Maplas.

Island Manpower finished the regular season with a 2-5 record and must wait for the final standings of San Roque (has 2-3, pending last Saturday’s game) and I Love Saipan (2-4) to determine its playoff chances. Maplas bowed out of the competition winless.

Victory became elusive for Maplas, as it ran out of ammunition against Island Manpower in the fourth quarter. The game was tied, 60-all, after the third when Island Manpower exploded for 30 points and Maplas answered with only 19 markers.

Three Island Manpower players scored at least 8 points apiece in the fourth-quarter assault with Gary Esconde putting the finish touches in their 11-point win, nailing the team’s last 6 markers. Francis

FONG’S

From Page 28

8 slots and, while the next four will fight for the last two, and the bottom two will be eliminated. The No. 3 to No. 8 spot in the team standings in Pool A is too close to call, as the six other teams have at least two wins each. NMI Contractor and Chinatown are done for the regular season their similar 3-4 slate, Kixx hold a 2-4 mark, Adobo and Flitop have identical 2-3 records, pending last Saturday’s games result, and Saipan Ice own a 3-3 card.

Kixx Engine Oil absorbed its fourth loss after wasting a 12-point lead in the first quarter. Ed Pangelinan drilled four triples, while Orly Ebuen canned two to lift Kixx to a 26-14 advantage at the end of the third. However, Fong’s quickly re-

grouped in the second quarter, slicing the deficit to three at the break, 36-39, behind its balance offense, and completed the come-from-behind win in the second half. Fong’s grabbed the upper hand in the third, 62-57, with J.R Barrios scoring 6 of the team’s last 8 points in that quarter. Then in the fourth, Noel David had a string of 4 points in the closing minutes, while Brian Ajoste connected on two triples to keep Fong’s on top.

Kixx had a total meltdown in the fourth, as it was held to 8 points with only Pangelinan making field goals for the team off his two triples. Jun Patawaran scored the 2 other points from the foul line.

Island Manpower 90, Maplas 79

In the Pool B game, Island Manpower kept its playoff bid

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES	
NBA STANDINGS	
EASTERN CONFERENCE	
Atlantic Division	
	W L Pct GB
Toronto	6 9 .400 —
Boston	7 12 .368 1
Philadelphia	6 11 .353 1
Brooklyn	5 12 .294 2
New York	3 12 .200 3
Southeast Division	
	W L Pct GB
Miami	13 3 .813 —
Atlanta	9 9 .500 5
Washington	8 9 .471 5½
Charlotte	8 9 .471 5½
Orlando	6 10 .375 7
Central Division	
	W L Pct GB
Indiana	15 1 .938 —
Chicago	7 8 .467 7½
Detroit	6 10 .375 9
Cleveland	5 12 .294 10½
Milwaukee	3 13 .188 12
WESTERN CONFERENCE	
Southwest Division	
	W L Pct GB
San Antonio	14 3 .824 —
Houston	13 5 .722 1½
Dallas	10 8 .556 4½
Memphis	8 8 .500 5½
New Orleans	7 8 .467 6
Northwest Division	
	W L Pct GB
Portland	13 3 .813 —
Oklahoma City	11 3 .786 1
Denver	9 6 .600 3½
Minnesota	9 9 .500 5
Utah	3 15 .167 11
Pacific Division	
	W L Pct GB
L.A. Clippers	12 5 .706 —
L.A. Lakers	9 8 .529 3
Golden State	9 8 .529 3
Phoenix	9 8 .529 3
Sacramento	4 10 .286 6½
AUSTRALIAN OPEN SCORES	
SYDNEY (AP) — Scores Sunday at the Australian Open on the par-72, 6,344-meter(6,938-yard) Royal Sydney Golf Club (a-denotes amateur):	
Final Round	
Rory McIlroy, Northern Ireland 69-65-70-66-270	
Adam Scott, Australia62-70-68-71-271	
John Senden, Australia73-68-70-66-277	
Bryden Macpherson, Australia71-70-69-69-279	
Rhein Gibson, Australia71-70-69-69-279	
Mark Brown, New Zealand75-70-66-69-280	
Jason Day, Australia70-74-66-70-280	
Matthew Jones, Australia68-68-72-72-280	
Nathan Holman, Australia69-72-68-72-281	
Adam Bland, Australia69-72-70-71-282	
Ashley Hall, Australia71-71-68-72-282	
Leigh McKechnie, Australia73-65-71-73-282	
Max McCordle, Australia68-71-69-74-282	
James Nitties, Australia70-71-74-68-283	
Alistair Presnell, Australia67-71-74-71-283	
David McKenzie, Australia66-75-71-71-283	
Nick O'Hern, Australia70-72-70-71-283	
a-Brody Watt, Australia68-70-73-72-283	
Stuart Appleby, Australia75-67-67-74-283	
Jamie Arnold, Australia72-68-74-70-284	
Mahal Pearce, New Zealand72-71-71-71-284	
Rod Pampling, Australia75-68-69-72-284	
Richard Green, Australia69-66-73-76-284	
Adam Crawford, Australia71-73-72-69-285	
Matthew Griffin, Australia73-72-70-70-285	
a-Ryan Ruffels, Australia77-67-68-73-285	
Matthew Goggin, Australia70-73-75-68-286	
Cameron Percy, Australia71-70-75-70-286	
Steven Bowditch, Australia68-74-74-70-286	
Michael Long, Australia72-71-71-71-286	
Tim Wilkinson, New Zealand73-71-71-71-286	
Kalem Richardson, Australia69-74-71-72-286	
Geoff Ogilvy, Australia75-66-72-73-286	
Aaron Baddeley, Australia67-74-72-73-286	
Scott Arnold, Australia70-70-69-77-286	
Jason Norris, Australia67-76-74-70-287	
Peter Lonard, Australia72-71-73-71-287	
Robert Allenby, Australia72-73-70-72-287	
Matthew Millar, Australia70-73-75-70-288	
Chan Shih-chang, Taiwan76-68-74-70-288	
Stephen Allan, Australia75-70-73-70-288	
Leigh Deagan, Australia71-73-73-71-288	
Aron Price, Australia70-69-77-72-288	
Ryan Yip, Canada65-75-74-74-288	
Ryan Lynch, Australia73-72-73-71-289	
Scott Strange, Australia71-73-73-72-289	
John Young Kim, United States 65-79-72-73-289	
Jason Scrivener, Australia67-74-74-74-289	
Michael Choi, Australia70-75-70-74-289	
a-Anthony Murdaca, Australia71-74-66-78-289	
Lucas Lee, Brazil70-75-79-66-290	
Timothy Wood, Australia73-70-73-74-290	
Tom Bond, Australia69-73-70-78-290	
Ryan Haller, Australia74-69-76-72-291	
Josh Younger, Australia69-69-79-74-291	
Wang Minghao, China75-70-76-71-292	
Anthony Brown, Australia68-74-78-72-292	
Anthony Summers, Australia74-70-76-72-292	
Steven Jones, Australia68-77-73-75-293	
Marcus Cain, Australia71-73-77-73-294	
Paul Spargo, Australia74-71-78-72-295	
Steven Jeffress, Australia75-69-75-76-295	
Matthew Guyatt, Australia71-74-75-76-296	
Choi Joon-woo, South Korea72-72-74-79-297	
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS	

The Week in Sports



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Finishers of last week's 35th Annual Turkey Trot Fun Run pose for a group photo.

Turkey Trot Fun Run steals show

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

The 35th Annual Turkey Trot Fun Run was the most anticipated competition on Saipan last week.

The early morning event from the Lower Base to the Mt. Tapochao drew more than 130 runners from all ages with veteran Mamiko Oshima-Berger and returnee Charlie Sendin leading the winners list of the 4.2-mile race. Sendin completed the race in 39:45 to take the overall No. 1 spot, while Oshima-Berger was the first female finisher after checking in at 42:10.

Other top finishers in their respective age groups were the men's division's Anthony Fruit, Angelo Jones, Bo Palacios, Aaron, and Cesar Danao, and the women's field's Amy Sletten, Conatsu Kaga, Gabrielle Race, Pipit Ball, Chiharu Sato, and Irma Halaby.

In other events last week, Armatech eliminated Pacific Islands Club in the UFO Masters caging, while the league-



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Coume Kaga, left, and Victoria Chentsova of Saipan Swim Club near the finish line of last week's 35th Annual Turkey Trot Fun Run.

leading Blue Haus moved a win away from sweeping the double-round robin elimination after downing Shakir Realty at

the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Over at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court, San Antonio pre-

vailed against Maplas to boost its bid for an outright quarterfinals bid, while Saipan Ice also won its game against Chinatown to remain in contention in the playoff round of the DL Corp. caging.

At the Oleai Sports Complex Field, MP United U18 and Tan Holdings FC advanced to the finals of the 2013 FA Youth Challenge Cup. MP United U18 drew a bye in the first round and then defeated sister team MP United U15 in the semis to notch the first finals seat in the FA Challenge Cup. Tan Holdings won over Matansa FC and Paire FC to bag the second and last finals ticket.

Still in football, the CNMI Women's National Team barged into the win column in the M-League after beating Shirley's FC, 4-2. Also recording wins in the M-League last week were the Tan Holdings FC, Inter Godfather's, Sun Palace, and Kanoa FC.

In badminton, Community Badminton Club and Shirley's Badminton Club won their



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Joel Fruit leads two other runners during last week's 35th Annual Turkey Trot Fun Run.

opening assignments in the 7th Traders Insurance Team Tournament at the TSL Sports Complex.

CBC recorded a 20-10 victory against the Golden Rac-

quets, while Shirley's prevailed against Taga Badminton Club, 26-4. Also competing in the annual tournament is back-to-back champion Saipan Badminton Club.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Players of Shirley's Women's Team get ready on defense against MP United U15's free pick during their game in the FA Youth Challenge Cup last week at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MP United U15 players huddles before resuming their game against Shirley's Women's Team in the FA Youth Challenge Cup last week at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Community Badminton Club's Jexler Caranto makes a return from the backcourt, while Mykki Caracut gets ready near the net during their game against Golden Racquet's Edwin Montoya and Cheng Saturno in last week's Traders Insurance tournament at the TSL Sports Complex.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Blue Haus' Gus Palacios plays tight defense on Shakir Realty's Joselino Canoy during their game in the UFO Masters caging last week at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.





Saipan Tribune Sports

Twins agree to terms with Nolasco

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28 MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2013

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Three-peat for MP United FC

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United FC's boys U18 team ruled the 2013 FA Youth Challenge Cup after beating Tan Holdings FC, 3-1, in the finals last Saturday night at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

MP United has won the last three editions of the season-ending tournament, prevailing against different clubs in those three occasions. In 2011, the Norman Del Rosario-coached squad downed sister team MP United Silver (U15), 3-1, and then topped perennial rival Paire FC in last year's finale, 3-2.

This year against the Tan Holdings FC, MP United managed to complete the three-peat despite playing with a depleted lineup in the second half of the

title game. John Taisacan and Scott Kim were booted out of the game after getting their second yellow card in the 39th and 43rd minute, respectively, leaving MP United with only 9 players versus the intact crew of Tan Holdings.

When the two key players left, MP United was in a deadlock against the Tan Holdings FC, 1-1. MP United scored first off Jehn Joyner's goal in the 31st minute and assist from Tanapon

See THREE on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

NMIFA technical director Johann Noetzel presents the FA Challenge Cup perpetual trophy to MP United coach Norman Del Rosario during the brief awards ceremony at the Oleai Sports Complex Field last Saturday night.

Blue Haus sweeps regular season



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Blue Haus' Edgar Pangelinan pulls up for a baseline jumper against D&Q Degree's Ariel Drilon during the second quarter of their game in the UFO Masters caging last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Blue Haus finished the regular season of the 2013 UFO-Budweiser Masters Division Basketball League with a flawless record, following a 116-92 out of D&Q Degree last Saturday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

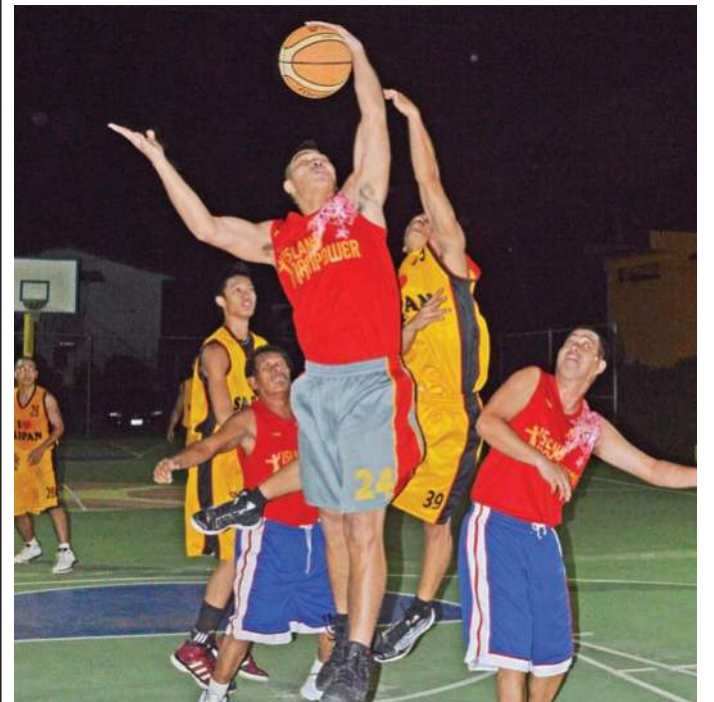
Blue Haus hammered Degree with a barrage of treys early in the game to set up the double-digit win and complete the eight-game sweep in the double-round robin contest. Degree wrapped up the regular season with a 3-7 record, losing its last seven matches. The top-ranked Blue Haus and Degree will meet anew tomorrow in the semifinals.

The unbeaten Blue Haus unloaded five triples in the first quarter and Degree could not retaliate, allowing the former to take a 27-18 lead. Tony Diaz and Edgar Pangelinan fired two treys apiece, while Roger Valencia made one. Despite failing to convert a single shot from downtown in the first canto, Degree still faced a single digit deficit, as Ferdie de la Torre

See BLUE on Page 26



Fong's Bakery, Island Manpower win



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Island Manpower's Cris Esteves plucks a rebound during their game against I Love Saipan in the DL Corp. caging late last month at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Fong's Bakery won its two make-up games in the 2nd DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League last week.

The twin wins were close ones, as Fong's eked out a 57-56 victory over Saipan Ice last Wednesday and then pulled off a 69-65 triumph

against Kixx Engine Oil last Friday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court. Fong's now has a 4-2 record and in second place behind Docomo (4-1), pending results of last Saturday's matches. The back-to-back wins boosted Fong's bid for the outright quarterfinals ticket in Pool A.

The Top 2 teams in Pool A will get the automatic Round of See FONG'S on Page 26

